

Romans 4:1-12

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

For what does the Scripture
say? “Abraham believed God, and it
was counted to him as
righteousness.”

Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

just as David also speaks of the
blessing of the one to whom God
counts righteousness
apart from works:

“Blessed are those whose lawless
deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;
blessed is the man against whom
the Lord will not count his sin.”

Is this blessing then only for the
circumcised, or also for the
uncircumcised? For we say that
faith was counted to Abraham
as righteousness.

How then was it counted to him?
Was it before or after he had been
circumcised? It was not after, but
before he was circumcised.

He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,

and to make him the father of the
circumcised who are not merely
circumcised but who also walk in
the footsteps of the faith that our
father Abraham had before he
was circumcised.

The Nature of Justification

Justification:
To be
declared righteous



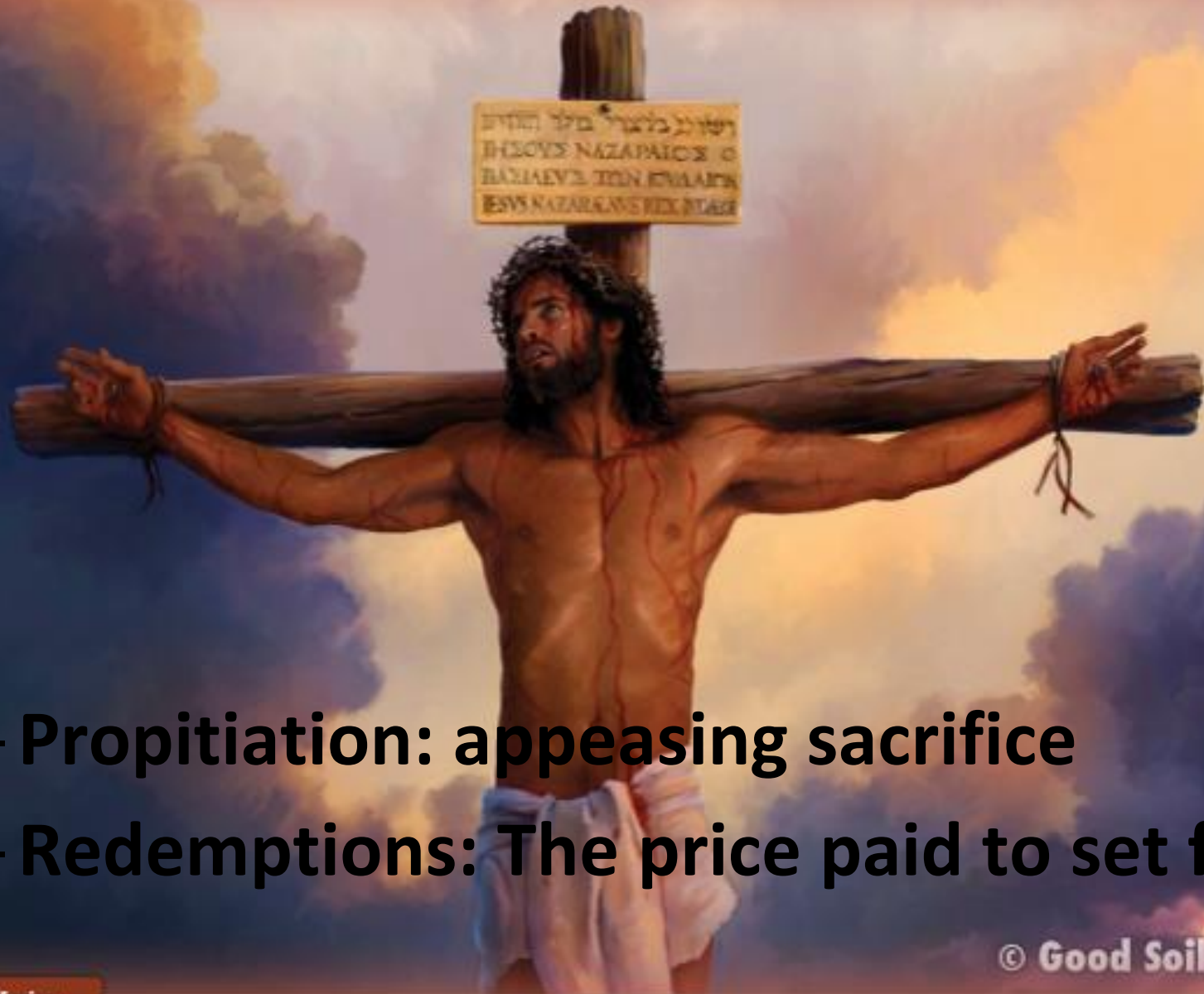
The Nature of Justification

1. Powerless resulting in faith v.1-3
2. Undeserved resulting in appreciation
v.4-5

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through
faith. And this is not your own doing; it is
the gift of God,

“How far grace goes beyond justice is seen in the remarkable statement that God ‘justifies the wicked.’ Not only does God justify men and women apart from works, but he does so contrary to what they deserve.”



- Propitiation: appeasing sacrifice
- Redemptions: The price paid to set free

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Suffering

The Nature of Justification

1. Powerless resulting in faith v.1-3
2. Undeserved resulting in appreciation v.4-5
3. Irrevocable resulting in security v.6-8

- **Grace**: is receiving something good that is NOT deserved
- **Mercy**: is NOT receiving something bad that is deserved

Romans 11:29

For the gifts and the calling of God
are irrevocable.