

**ROMANS SERIES TEN**  
**IT DOESN'T GET ANY SIMPLER**  
**Dr. Roger Barrier**  
**Romans 4:9-25; John 3:14-16 ; Num. 21:4-9**

What do you want out of life? You want what all of us want: relationships where our needs are met; relationships where we feel accepted, approved, comforted, encouraged, supported and secure. Of course, in these relationships we not only have our emotional needs met, we are meeting the need of others.

Considering deeper dimensions of life, we long for those same needs to be met in an intimate relationship with the eternal, open and vulnerable God of our universe. Our relationship with Him is not something we have to wait for some time off in the future sweet by and by. We can begin experiencing it the very moment we give our lives to Jesus Christ.

AN OVERVIEW OF ROMANS

Romans 4 is the last time Paul will emphasize that nothing but our faith in Jesus Christ can provide salvation from our wicked ways and open the door to life in Christ!

A SIMPLE FORMULA FOR A DIVINE TRANSACTION

“F + 0 = R”

Where F = Faith in Christ

0 = nothing

R = righteousness

Where “Faith” Equals Faith In Christ

The object of our faith is the person of Jesus Christ.

The proof of our faith is the resurrection of Jesus Christ. On the cross Jesus Christ paid the debt for our sin in full! His resurrection is our receipt.

The amount of our faith has very little to do with it in the initial stages. Jesus told us that even if we have a tiny faith—like a grain of mustard seed—we have enough.

Faith places all of its “eggs” in one basket!

Christians will occasionally experience doubts. Doubts don't cancel out faith. Faith enables us to overcome our doubts and to answer them.

Faith is a cold-blooded choice to believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Where “0” Equals Nothing

What might people add to the formula?

Circumcision: religious rites

The Law: all sorts of special behaviors and requirements

Where "R" Equals Righteousness

Righteousness is a justified standing with God.

Righteousness is a gift which enables us to interact intimately with the Living God.

Don't Mess With The Formula.

Galatians 1:6-12

The Simple Message Of The Cross Is A Stumbling Block To Those Who Will Not Believe  
(1 Corinthians 1-2).

The formula is not hard to understand. Choosing to live by the implications may be hard; but, all the other seemingly available options pale in insignificance.

The minute our religion gets complex, or hard to figure out, we are moving further and further away from God.

Use the formula with your friends.

#### A SIMPLE PICTURE, EASY TO UNDERSTAND

In John 3:14-15 Jesus referred to the uplifted Bronze Serpent as the perfect picture illustration of salvation by faith.

In Numbers 21:4-9 we see that faith in the uplifted Christ is the only remedy that God has provided for dealing with human sin!

TODAY IS THE DAY TO BEGIN THE LIFE OF FAITH IN CHRIST.