

“Whoever Calls On The Name Of The Lord Shall Be Saved” Romans 10:1-13

Message by Michael J. Barnard

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Teaching Aim: To illustrate Paul’s love for his fellow Israelites and see his desire for each of them to be saved. To realize religious zeal without a proper understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ will not save anyone. To recognize that when we truly believe in Jesus with all our heart, we will want to share our love for Him with our mouth. To understand the gospel message is for everyone, including both Jews and Gentiles alike.

Part I: Paul expresses his desire to see the people of Israel come to faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 10:1-4)

1. The closing verse in **Rom. 9** illustrates two different ways that people respond to Jesus. What are they? Why do you think Jesus has been a “*stumbling stone*” and “*rock of offense*” to so many people? (See **2 Cor. 4:3-4**) Why do you think the Jews struggled so much with the claim that Jesus was the Messiah? (See **Matt. 13:53-58**) What were they expecting in the Messiah? How did Jesus come during His First Advent? (See **John 1:29b**)

2. Paul often prayed for the Gentiles in his letters, but who do we find him praying for in **verse 1 of Romans chapter 10**? Paul is known as “*the apostle to the Gentiles*” (See **Acts 9:15-16**), did this apostleship lessen Paul’s love for his fellow Israelites? Why or why not? As a believer in Jesus Christ, has your love lessened for your unbelieving family members and friends? What are you doing to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with them?

3. Paul wrote **verse 2** from personal experience. How did Paul (formerly known as Saul) demonstrate a wrong kind of religious zeal when he was a young man? (See **Acts 8:1-3; 22:3-5**) Did Paul’s zeal hurt people? Did he hurt Christians? Do you think Paul believed in his heart that he was doing the right thing? Why or why not? Have you ever hurt other people thinking you were doing right? Can you name some modern religious zealots (from any religion) who think they are doing right but are horribly wrong? According to **Matt. 7:21-23**, what will happen to people who think they are Christian but are not? Will everybody who outwardly identifies himself or herself as Christian be saved? Why or why not? What is required according to Jesus in **Matt. 7:21-23**?

4. Have you ever been called “*ignorant*” (**vs. 3**)? What does it mean? (See Dictionary) What is the only means by which anyone can receive “*the righteousness of God*?” (See **2 Cor. 5:21**) According to **verse 3**, why did Paul call the Jews ignorant? Can anyone earn their own salvation by the things that they do? (See **Gal. 3:10-11**) What did the vast majority of the Israelites believe? What is the only way that anyone can come to salvation? (See **John 3:16; 14:6; Acts 4:12; 16:31; Eph. 2:8-9**)

5. The Greek work “*telos*” translated “*end*” can mean one of two things, either 1) The end goal (in the sense that the purpose of the Mosaic Law was to point us to Christ – **Gal. 3:24**), or 2) The fulfillment of the Law (in the sense that Christ perfectly fulfilled the Law). Which definition do you think Paul meant in **verse 4**? Why? (See **Matt. 5:17-18**) What is required if Jesus is to become our righteousness (**vs.4**)?

Part II: The Israelites where closer to their Messiah than they imagined (Rom. 10:5-8)

1. Paul quotes from **Lev. 18:5** in **verse 5** to demonstrate that if anyone wants to follow the Mosaic Law, they need to live by the law, meaning every bit of it. Can we? Even if we hypothetically lived the rest of our lives without ever sinning again, would it be enough to save us? Why or why not? (See **Psa. 51:5; Jam. 2:10**)

2. **Verses 6 & 7** go hand in hand. What was Paul referring to as he wrote of, “*the righteousness of faith*” (**vs. 6**)? (See Commentaries) “*The righteousness of faith*” isn’t based on human effort, but rather in trusting the Lord. Paul then taught that the true believer in Christ doesn’t have to go up to heaven to bring Jesus down or go down to Christ’s grave to bring Jesus up. Jesus has already risen from the dead and He is here with us in His divine nature (though His glorified human body is now in heaven at the right hand of the Father.) Is believing in the resurrection of Jesus Christ a necessary part of having saving faith? Do you see belief in the resurrection as a non-negotiable when it comes to the Christian faith? What makes the resurrection of Christ so important?

3. In **verse 8**, Paul quotes from **Deut. 30:14** which refers to the Law of God. What is the LORD teaching us through the context of **Deut. 30:11-14**? How do these passages from Deuteronomy relate to Jesus Christ and the gospel message? What must happen for the word of God to dwell in our hearts today? What do you think Paul meant when he said, *"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart?"* Is this the case for you? What was Paul referring to when he referred to *"the word of faith which we preach?"* (**Vv. 9-10**) If you are shy, what are some other ways that you can communicate your faith in Jesus Christ to other people?

Part III: The way of salvation is the same for both Jews and Gentiles alike (Rom. 10:9-13)

1. Notice the reversal of the verbs *"confess"* and *"believe"* in **verses 9 & 10**. How do these words relate to the Christian faith today and why do you think there is a reversal in the order of the words in **verses 9 & 10**? According to these verses, what will a saved person naturally want to do? The confession that *"Jesus is Lord"* is particularly important when it comes to the Christian. Why? Notice that Paul used the Greek word *"Kurios"* here for *"Lord."* *Kurios* is used over 6,000 times in the Septuagint (LXX) (the Greek version of the Old Testament) to translate the special covenantal name of God with Israel— *"Yahweh."* (Yahweh means, "The self-existent One who reveals Himself.) What can we learn about Jesus from Paul's use of this title? (See **Tit. 2:11-14**) Why is it so important for every believer to publicly proclaim their faith in Jesus? Can Jesus be your Savior and not your Lord? You might say, *"Possibly for a short time."* Are you truly a Christian if Jesus is not your Lord?
2. **Verse 11** refers to **Isa. 28:16 & 49:23**. What common promise can we find for the believer in all three verses? Have you ever been ashamed to share your love for Christ with other people? If so, what caused you to feel that way? How did Jesus promise to respond in the future to people who were ashamed of Him? (See **Mark 8:38**)
3. According to **verse 12**, is there any distinction between Jew and Greek (meaning Gentiles) when it comes to salvation? According to the following verses, what is required for a person to come to salvation? (See **John 3:16; Rev. 22:17**) Who receives special blessing from the Lord according to **verses 12 & 13**?

4. **Verse 13** is a direct quote from **Joel 2:32** and the New Covenant. What is promised to the believer in the New Covenant which we now know was implemented through the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross? (See **Joel 2:28-32**) What famous sermon was Peter preaching from when he quoted this very same verse? (See **Acts 2:21**) Why was Peter's sermon and the events that occurred on the day of Pentecost so important to every believer in Christ? What kind of "call" is referred to in **verse 13**? What does **verse 13** promise to those who genuinely call on the name of the Lord for His saving grace? Have you?
5. Have you ever shared your love for Jesus and the gospel of Jesus Christ with somebody? If not, what has stopped you? **Verses 9 & 10** are the last verses quoted in the evangelistic tool which is commonly known as "*The Romans Road*." Try memorizing (or writing down) the following verses so you can share them with others people when you get the opportunity. (See **Rom. 3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9-10**)
6. Have you received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord? If not, why not repent of your sins and do so in prayer right now?

MINER'S CORNER ~ *Manna to live by!*

- Though Paul was the apostle to the Gentiles, he never lost his desire to see the nation of Israel (his countrymen) saved.
- God's righteousness refers to the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ to the believer.
- God has already accomplished everything we need for salvation in Christ, all we need to do is believe in Him and freely receive what He has done for us.
- Verbal confession that "*Jesus is Lord*" should be the natural outflow of a believing heart.
- The true believer in Jesus Christ will want to share the Good News of Jesus with other people.
- The offer of salvation is open to both Jews and Gentiles alike.
- There is only one way to salvation, "*By grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone.*"