

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

ROMANS 10:1-10

SAVED BY FAITH— May 16, 2021

INTRODUCTION:

Romans 9:22-33 NLT In the same way, even though God has the right to show His anger and His power, he is very patient with those on whom His anger falls, who are destined for destruction. He does this to make the riches of His glory shine even brighter on those to whom He shows mercy, who were prepared in advance for glory. And we are among those whom He selected, both from the Jews and from the Gentiles. Concerning the Gentiles, God says in the prophecy of Hosea, "Those who were not my people, I will now call my people. And I will love those whom I did not love before." And, "Then, at the place where they were told, 'You are not my people,' there they will be called 'children of the living God.'" And concerning Israel, Isaiah the prophet cried out, "Though the people of Israel are as numerous as the sand of the seashore, only a remnant will be saved. For the LORD will carry out His sentence upon the earth quickly and with finality." And Isaiah said the same thing in another place: "If the LORD of Heaven's Armies had not spared a few of our children, we would have been wiped out like Sodom, destroyed like Gomorrah." What does all this mean? Even though the Gentiles were not trying to follow God's standards, they were made right with God. And it was by faith that this took place. But the people of Israel, who tried so hard to get right with God by keeping the law, never succeeded. Why not? Because they were trying to get right with God by keeping the law instead of by trusting in Him. They stumbled over the great rock in their path. God warned them of this in the Scriptures when He said, "I am placing a stone in Jerusalem that makes people stumble, a rock that makes them fall. But anyone who trusts in Him will never be disgraced."

LESSON: I. PRAYING FOR THE LOST ROMANS 10:1-2

10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. Prayer is our portal to God but it's through our faith. "For it's by grace we are saved through faith..." So, Paul had this burning desire for Israel's salvation, so he prayed to God. Even though he's the apostle to the Gentiles, Paul takes no satisfaction in Israel's rejection of God. When a loved one or someone you care about rejects God, it hurts because they just won't accept the plan of God. You have to look to God, for they are rejecting God not you. God gives the increase. He is the One who saves. You plant the seed. That's why it's so vital for you to pray that God gets the person's heart ready to receive the gospel before you go to them. Prayer is so vitally important before and after you've gone to the person, for God leads in both parties. Paul loved his people, and he loved them deeply. We are also called to pray for Israel. Psalm 122:6 says "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee." Romans 11:1 says "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee." This is how dedicated Paul was about Israel's Jews. "God is the same today yesterday and forever." The last verses in chapter 9 showed us that the Gentiles weren't trying to follow God's standards of being made right by faith in God. No, Israel tried so hard to get it right with God by keeping the law, but never succeeding. They stumbled over the great rock in their path (Jesus) even after God warned them. Therefore, Paul had a desperate need to pray that Israel be saved. Don't you have someone God has placed on your heart that you're still praying for? Don't give up talking to God about them. He opens the door for the gospel to be given again and again.

10:2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. Israel's great mistake was that they had a zeal for God, but it was not based on correct knowledge. They read the law and memorized the law, but have never internalized the truth of the law about God's righteousness. Zeal and sincerity are not enough in seeking God. You can hear the Word over and over, but never do, that is, apply the Word to your life, then you're a procrastinator and will never grow. Our growth is also predicated upon the leading and

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guidance of the Holy Spirit who shows us where we've gone wrong. Their knowledge was only partial if they only depended upon themselves. What they knew was incomplete; it was not enough. Something else is always needed: accurate and complete knowledge. As a result, they did not know God personally. There is a big difference between a hyped relationship and a personal relationship. The next verse tells us why.

II. PURSUING RIGHTEOUSNESS ROMANS 10:3-8

10:3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. To earn/work righteousness is to gain and remain in false righteousness. This is something we can't earn. It's only through the "Rock" they've stumbled over (9:33). Any attempt to establish one's own righteousness is open rebellion against God and His method of establishing righteousness in us. Israel had an incomplete and incorrect knowledge of God because...

1. Israel was going about to establish their own righteousness; sought to make themselves acceptable through...
 - i. Rituals
 - i. Ceremonies
 - i. Laws
 - i. Works

They sought to save themselves by being as religious as they could. They felt that God would never reject them if they did the best they could. Therefore, they drew up every rule and regulation they could make themselves religiously good and acceptable, and worked and worked to follow them. That's why...

2. Israel was ignorant of God's righteousness; ignorant of God's method of justification as to how a man really becomes acceptable to God.
 - a. God's true nature is *God's holiness and perfection*.
 - b. Man's true nature is *man's sin and desperate need for perfect righteousness*.
 - c. God's love is God's love in sending His Son to save man by providing a Perfect Righteousness for man.

Lastly...

3. Israel did not submit themselves unto the righteousness of God. Very simply, they refused to accept Jesus Christ, who is God's righteousness!

10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. Jesus Christ is the One who put an end to man having to seek righteousness through the law. The old order of which the law was a significant part, made way for the new order of the Holy Spirit of God to be instituted. This is the same as when something has to be upgraded. Many times we don't like upgrades. But this upgrade says, we're not implementing works any longer, "*for Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believe*."

1. Christ ended the law in that He is the object toward which the law points. The law was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. The law was a shadow of the real substance that was to come.
 - Man no longer has to work to be acceptable to God, for when you work you still come up short of God's glory and commands.
2. Christ ended the law in that He fulfilled and completed the law perfectly. He lived under the law and kept it perfectly; not those man-made laws. He was sinless, obeying every rule and requirement of the law. By fulfilling and completing the law, Jesus Christ has become the Ideal Man! The law finds its perfection in Jesus Christ.
 - Man no longer looks to the law as the way to reach God and to secure God's favor.
 - Man now looks to Jesus Christ and approaches God through Jesus Christ.
3. Christ ended the law in that He destroyed the penalty and condemnation of the law against man. Christ took the sin of man upon Himself and bore the condemnation for man. He bore the execution of being separated from God for man.
 1. Man no longer has to live under the slaving power of sin; under its guilt and shame and punishment; but under the saving power of grace!
 2. Man no longer has to be under the weight and pressure of failing, and of being ever so unworthy and hopeless, lonely and alienated; but under the shadow of the Almighty!
 3. Man can now be set free and know full well that he is acceptable to God.
 4. Man can now have a heart that swells with assurance and confidence, the perfect knowledge that He is God's and God is his.



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10:5 For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things

shall live by them. There are two contrasts of righteousness:

1. Moses describes the righteousness of the law, that it was teaching men to do (labor) and live. Paul quotes Leviticus 18:5 "*Keep my decrees and laws, for the person who obeys them will live by them. I am the Lord.*" (NIV). So, where is your righteous coming from? Choose...
 - Trust in ourselves to never sin? Or...
 - Trust in the righteousness of the Person who has lived a sinless life?

Do you want to be upgraded? For you see God's righteousness opposes man's righteousness; oppose man's way for reaching God (man trying to reach God by the law and works). It won't work.

10:6 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)— 10:7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)—

2. Now, Paul describes the righteousness of faith, that it is teaching men to believe and live. Paul is simply saying, don't contemplate in your heart as to who would bring Christ down from above or who would bring Christ up from the dead. No man can work hard enough to climb up into heaven or labor enough to conquer death and hell.

Paul quotes Deuteronomy 30:12 "*His commands aren't in heaven, so you can't excuse yourselves by saying, "How can we obey the Lord's commands? They are in heaven, and no one can go up to get them, then bring them down and explain them to us."*" (CEV). Righteousness is only obtained by God's way. So, you can't go up to get it and you can't go down to get it.

10:8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;— Paul is saying: this is how they are to pursue righteousness. It's quoted from Deuteronomy 30:14 "*But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thy mayest do it.*" What's going to be with you until you die? I didn't say who, I said what—it's the Word of God— it's nigh thee—it's in your mouth and in your heart which they preached. What do we do with our mouth? We confess! What do we do in our heart? We believe! The Word of God is the Word of faith! We are professing our faith in Christ! God's righteousness is right before us.

III. PROFESSING FAITH IN CHRIST ROMANS 10:9-10

10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. First of all, Faith is required! The Lord Jesus is the One Deliverer who ascended into heaven and brought salvation down to man, and He is the One Savior who descended into the depths to conquer death and hell (Eph.4:8-10). Since Christ came, the gospel does not require man to scale the heavens nor to the great abyss. The gospel only demands faith and an open confession that Christ has done both (ascended and descended). All that man desires is found in his mouth and heart. How simple is that? He has to do three simple things to be saved from sin, death, and hell.

1. Man must confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus. He must confess that Jesus Christ is the Lord from heaven.
2. Man must believe in his heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. He "Got Up"; was Resurrected!
 - a. Jesus Christ died for man's sins.
 - b. Jesus Christ was raised from the dead by God because He perfectly satisfied God's demand for justice.

10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

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3. Man must believe with the heart that results in righteousness and then confess openly his faith with the mouth that results in salvation. God takes that man's faith and counts it as righteousness because he believes in Jesus Christ. Next, you confess openly what you believe. Your open confession of Christ results in salvation.

Matthew 10:32-33 says, "Whoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." "Whoever therefore shall deny me before men, him will I deny also before my Father which is in heaven." Therefore, the Person of Jesus Christ you believe in your heart, you will confess with your mouth, and not be ashamed. "For scripture saith (verse 11), Whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed."

SUMMARY:

Paul had a burning desire for Israel's salvation, even though he is the apostle to the Gentiles. Israel's great mistake was that they had a zeal for God, but it was not based on correct knowledge (10:1-2).

Israel was ignorant of God's righteousness and went about trying to establish their own righteousness. They did not submit themselves unto the righteousness of God. Jesus Christ is the One who put an end to man having to seek righteousness through the law. They only had to believe and accept Christ as their righteousness. Moses described the righteousness of the law was teaching men to do (labor) and live. However, the man who do those things had to live by them. But Paul described the righteousness of faith was teaching men to believe and live. No man can work hard enough to climb up into heaven or labor enough to conquer death and hell, so they couldn't contemplate in their hearts such a thing, and they couldn't use that excuse. But the way to pursue righteousness was that it was already near them—in their mouths and hearts, the Word of faith they preach! "*The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach*" (10:3-8).

Confess the Lord Jesus (*His Lordship as the exalted Christ*) with your mouth and Believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead (*Resurrection*) thou shall be saved. Because you believe in your heart the Lord Jesus, righteousness is credited to you, with your open confession with your mouth, brought salvation to your life (10:9-10).