

Righteousness is a Part of the Deal

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved [Rom. 10:1].

Paul in this letter to the saints in Roman indicates that he is praying for his fellow country men Israel. His request or his petition to God is that Israel might be saved.

Since Israel is Gods chosen people, you would think if any people would have been considered saved Israel would have been my first choice.

They had been given the glory of the people of God... They were given the Law of Moses... They were called to the service of God... They were given all the promises of God... They were give the patriots of old Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came. Israel, with all they possessed of religion, was not saved. Rom. 9:2–5

The reason for them not being saved is, they were in rebellion against God's revealed will in that they would not accept the righteousness God offers in Christ, but continued to work to keep the law of Moses and establish their own righteousness. You can be religious and good and yet be lost.

Religion vs. Relationship

- Israel had a God-given religion, but they needed to be saved. They had religion but not righteousness. They had more than any other nation, but they were lost. Paul's desire was that Israel might be saved. Religion is one of the most destructive weapon against the grace of God.
- Salvation is about a relationship mankind can establish with God through the sacrifice Christ made for us on the cross.
- Israel was savable. They are on the same plane before God today as Gentiles and should be evangelized as any other people without Christ. There is no difference today. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" Rom. 3:23. Without Christ you are on your way to a devils hell. Luke 16:22-29
- Should we have the same compassion Paul had for Israel, for the lost and those in our sphere of influence, to be saved. Matt. 9:35-37, John 4:35, 1John 3:16, 2Corn 5:11



For I bear them record that they have zeal of God, but not according to knowledge [Rom. 10:2].

- Paul admits they had a seal (false understanding) of God, but it was not according to the revelation knowledge we have of God's word. Therefore they remained in bondage to the law of sin and death. Rom. 8:1-2
- Why did Israel have an incomplete and incorrect knowledge of God? . They failed to understand...for 3 reasons; Israel was ignorant of God's righteousness. They failed to understand...God's true nature: His holiness and perfection, and the utter necessity to be perfect in order to be acceptable to Him and given the right to live in His presence.
- Man's sinful nature: his sin and desperate need for *perfect* righteousness in order to be acceptable to God.
- God's love: His love in sending His Son to save man by providing a perfect righteousness for him. Very simply, Israel was ignorant of God's method of justification, ignorant as to how a man really becomes acceptable to God. Salvation cannot be earned. Rom. 4:1-5

For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, (religion. self righteousness) have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God [Rom. 10:3].

- They didn't know that righteousness did not come by keeping the law or by the works of the flesh. For by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. Rom 3:20, Gal 2:16
- All our righteousness is as filthy rags. Isa. 64:6
- But righteousness came by faith in Jesus Christ and faith in his finished work on the cross. God still demands holiness, perfection and will not except anything less. 1Peter 1:15-16
- He came to his own (the Jews) and his own received him not. Matt 10:5-7. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to be come sons of God even they that believe on his name. John 1:11-12
- In rejecting Christ and his righteousness, Israel was rejecting the only provision God provided for mans sins. John the Baptist declared; behold the lamb of God that cometh to take away the sins of the world. John 1:29
- Can a person be saved without submitting themselves to the righteousness on God? What can wash away my sins?

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth [Rom. 10:4]. For I have desired the right of the law, which is of the law, [Matt. 5:17] [Matt. 5:20] that the man which doeth those things shall live by them [Rom. 10:5]. The matter is that the Law is still a standard. It reveals to me that I cannot measure up to God's standard. This drives me to the cross of Christ. The only way I can fulfill the Law is by accepting the only One who could fulfill it—Jesus Christ. Gal. 3:24 Matt. 9:16

- Jesus Christ is the One who puts an end to man having to seek righteousness through the law. Man no longer has to work and work to be acceptable to God. Man no longer has to live under the enslaving power of sin, under its guilt and shame. Man no longer has to live under the weight and pressure of failing or being rejected. Man can now be set free and know full well that he is acceptable to God. Man can now have a heart that is full of assurance and confidence, in the perfect knowledge that he is God's and God is his. Phil 1:6

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:) [Rom. 10:6]. Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) Rom. 10:7].

- God's righteousness is opposed to man's righteousness, that is, opposed to man's way for reaching God. Man tries to reach God by law and works, by simply doing the very best he can. However, there is a terrible flaw in this approach. The man who lives by the law must keep the law, and keep it perfectly. Gal 3:10, James 2:10
- A person does not have to scale heaven nor fathom the deep to be saved. If he did, he would be hopeless lost eternally, for no man can penetrate heaven to secure righteousness or go into the depths to conquer death and hell. No man can work hard enough to climb up into heaven or labor hard enough to conquer death, hell and the grave. No man can reconnect himself to the spiritual world or transform himself into a perfect being so that he never has to die and face judgment.
- Righteousness or man being right and perfect before God is beyond the grasp of man's efforts. Deut. 30:11-13, Psalm 139:6-9.

[But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach [Rom. 10:8].

- The word of God is saying salvation is available right where you are sitting. A great many folk think they have to go to an altar in some sort of gathering to be saved. But salvation is available to you right where you are now. You can come to Jesus just as you are. Matt. 11:28-29. Though your sins are as scarlet, Jesus will make them whiter than snow. David's Testimony Ps. 40:1-4
- Paul is saying that man needs to bring his confession and his life into agreement with God. True repentance takes place when the mouth and the heart is in harmony, saying the same thing. It is with the heart that you believe. Your "heart" means your entire being. Matt 15:8-9.
- When you make a public confession, you make sure that your heart comes right along with you; that you are not just saying idle words that mean nothing to you personally. If there is confession without faith, it is due either to self-deception or to hypocrisy. If there is faith without confession, it may be cowardice and God cannot use no coward soldier. Rom 1:16-17

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

- Man has to do three simple things to be counted righteous and acceptable by God.
- 1. Man must confess with his mouth the *Lord Jesus*. He must confess that Jesus Christ is the *Lord from heaven*. John 3:31, 1Corn 12:3
- 2. Man must believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. He must believe that Jesus Christ...died for man. was raised up from the dead because He perfectly satisfied God's demand for justice.
- 3. God was perfectly satisfied with Christ taking man's sin upon Himself and bearing the punishment of sin for man. God was perfectly satisfied with Christ dying for man. Romans 4:25
- A man believes unto righteousness; that is, a man believes that Jesus has done everything necessary to secure eternal salvation for him at the cross. God takes that man's faith and counts it *as righteousness*. Then the man confesses Christ *to salvation*; that is, he is saved by openly confessing Christ. No man can deny God's Son and expect God to save him. Matthew 10:32-33, Luke 12:8, 1 John 2:23.

For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed [Rom. 10:11]. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him [Rom. 10:12].

- This passage also shows the universal character of salvation in the word *whosoever*. Mark 11:23 you are a whosoever and by faith can ask for whatsoever.
- There is no distinction between the Jew and the Greek (or Gentile)—all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
- The word ashamed here means disappointed, Paul is saying whosoever believeth shall not be disappointed. Hebrew 10:35
- All Jews, if they are to be saved, must come the same way the rest of us came to Christ. The Lord Jesus said, “... no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).
- You can't come to Him by the Old Testament ritual or by the Mosaic Law. Salvation is offered to all people on the same basis of mercy—by faith. Hear and believe the gospel of Grace. Titus 3:4

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved [Rom. 10:13].

- This is a remarkable statement, which Paul draws from the Old Testament (see Joel 2:32), to enforce his argument that salvation is by faith. This makes it very clear that both Jew and Gentile are to call on the Lord. To “call upon the name of the Lord” means to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- It is necessary to understand Paul’s position in order to appreciate these verses. The Jews, his own people, hated the apostle Paul even though they applauded Saul, the Pharisee. He is showing the logic of his position.
- They rejected his claim, or the right of any of the apostles, to proclaim a gospel that omitted the Mosaic system which had degenerated into Pharisaism. Mark 7:9



How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

- To be saved we don't need to go anywhere.... We don't need to do any thingWe don't need to see anything. You must hear something.... He that has ear let him hear what the spirit is saying to the church faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.
- Paul shows that there must be messengers of the gospel who have credentials from God. Paul, you recall, began this epistle with the claim that he was a called apostle of Jesus Christ (see Rom. 1:1).
- Every believer has been called to proclaim this Gospel. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and **ordained you**, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you” (John 15:16). Is this ordination mentioned to all believers or just some?
- People must hear something before they can believe something. How can they hear without a preacher? 2Corn 5:17-19

And how shall they preach, except they are sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! [Rom. 10:14–15].

- The preacher must be sent in order for people to hear that they might believe, for they would not know how to call upon God. Paul pinpoints all on *believing*. This, therefore, necessitated his ministry
- Isaiah 52:7 which says: “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!”
- The feet of the preacher and witness are beautiful; that is, they are a welcome sight to the world. The world desperately needs the message of peace and the glad tidings of good things.
- Our message is to wit, that God was in Christ Reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespass against them. Why? Isa 53 is the message of the preacher. Beautiful are the feet of the preacher that carries the gospel message.



**But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith,
Lord, who hath believed our report? [Rom. 10:16].**

- While we are amazed at the great number of folk who tell us that they have received Christ because of our ministry, when we look at the total picture, it is a very small minority. Who *has* believed our report? Not very many.
- Oh, this is so important! Faith does not come by preaching philosophy or psychology or some political solution; it comes by preaching the *Word of God*. Until you hear the Word of God, you cannot be saved. Righteousness comes by faith and faith cometh by hearing
- Scripture says the gospel is universal. Isaiah says that many Jews did not “believe the report [message] of God.” Isaiah 53:1. Therefore, they prove that salvation is not by race, heritage, tradition, religion, institution, nor by works established by the Jewish nation or any other people.
- Isaiah was saying that *believing the message* is the way of salvation. The message was to stir faith.



So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God [Rom. 10:17].

- To be saved we don't need to go anywhere.... We don't need to do any thingWe don't need to see anything. You must hear something.... He that has ear let him hear what the spirit is saying to the church faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.
- The world is waiting to hear from us. We have been given the ministry of reconciliation to wit that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself not imputing their trespasses unto them. God will not do it for us, The angels will not do it for us, Jesus will not do it for us. Act 9 and 10
- Why? Because of the dominion God gave mankind in the garden (Gen.1-26-27) which he lost to Satan. 2Corn 4:4 Jesus came and restored it and gave the dominion back to his Church. Matt 16:16-19. then instructed the Church to occupy until I come. Luke 19:13



IN CLOSING

When righteousness is on the inside...in time of trouble you can say...I will look to the hills from whence cometh my help my help come from the Lord

- **When righteousness is on the inside. You could have just lost your job... but you could testify like Paul.. And my God shall supply my every need according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.**
- **When righteousness is on the inside....And it seems like nothing is going your way... you can say.... All things work together for good to them that love god to them called according to his purpose**
- **When righteousness is on the inside... you can say like Job, Lord I love... thou you slay me yet will i trust the, all my appointed time I'm going to wait till my change come.**
- **When Jesus is on the inside....You can testify to the world.. I love the lord and i wont take it back. I love the lord and i wont take it back. I love the lord and i wont take it back he's been so good to me.**



Three Step Involved In Faith

- 1. The step of hearing. A man must be willing to listen to the message of Christ. (Matthew 13:16) (Matthew 13:23). (Luke 10:39). (Luke 18:15) (John 1:12). (Acts 17:11) (1 Thes. 2:13). (James 1:19)
- 2. The step of mental assent. A man must agree that the message is true, that the facts of the case are thus and so. But this is not enough. Mere agreement does not lead to action. Many a person knows that something is true, but he does not change his behavior to match his knowledge. For example, a man knows that eating too much harms his body, but he may continue to eat too much. He is a double-minded man: he agrees to the truth and knows the truth, but he does nothing about it. This man still does not have faith, not the kind of faith that the Bible talks about. (James 1:18). (James 4:8). (Luke 16:12).



Three Steps Involved in Faith

- 3. The step of commitment. When the New Testament speaks of faith, it speaks of *commitment*, a personal commitment to the truth. A man hears the truth and agrees that it is true and does something about it. He commits and yields his life to the truth. The truth becomes a part of his very being, a part of his behavior and life.
- Saving faith is believing in the name of Jesus Christ and committing one's life to Him. It is trusting Jesus Christ, completely putting one's trust in Him, who He is and what He has done. It is casting one's life into His hands, believing He will take care of one's past (sins), present (looking after), and future (delivering from death unto life eternal).
- (John 3:15).(John 3:36) (John 5:24). (John 6:28-29). (John 11:25).

