

Romans 10

Romans 10.1-4

V1 – To whom does the word “*them*” refer? The Jews

-Why did Paul say “*them*”? Because he was a Christian first and a Jew second

V2 – “Knowledge” is imperative – “*I bear witness*” – *Galatians 1.14*

-Paul spoke from experience and knowledge, not just feelings and opinions

- John Calvin: “It is better to limp along on the right road than to run on the wrong road!”

-*Philippians 3.8-11* – All things are counted as lost when compared to knowing Christ

-*Acts 17.11* – The church at Berea had a knowledge of the Bible from daily study

V3 – Man’s righteousness – *Colossians 2.16-23*

-How did the Jews rely on their own knowledge? The writings of the rabbis and all their thousands of little rules that had nothing to do with the Word of God

-Examples? Not healing people on the Sabbath, not washing the outside of the cup, etc.

V4 – In what sense was Christ the end of the law? When he died on the cross, the veil of the temple was torn from top to bottom and thus brought an end to the Law of Moses

-Why? Because the Most Holy Place was exposed to the world, and people could approach God directly without going through the Old Law

Romans 10.5-15

V5 – What is the problem with keeping the Law of Moses? No-one had ever kept the law perfectly until Christ, and the Law could never save an imperfect person

V6 – Has anyone ever come down from heaven to the earth? Yes, Jesus Christ

-*Acts 17.26-27* – God is close to each person

-The Muslims must go to Mecca

-Mormons must visit various temples around the world

-Jews go to the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem

-But Christ has come down to us

V7 – Has anyone ever descended to Hades and returned? Yes, Jesus Christ

V8 – But we have the word of God with us (the Bible), and our savior has promised to be near us at all times

V9 – What were the apostles preaching? That we must confess our faith that Jesus is Lord

-Are we saved only by confessing our faith in Christ? Absolutely not

-Read **Matt. 4.4** – We have to take every passage that mentions salvation and follow all the instructions of the New Testament, not just one passage

V 10 – We must believe with our hearts and we confess our faith with our mouth
-We remember two additional instructions in *Acts 2.38* (to repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of our sins)
-We also remember *1 Peter 3.21*, which tells us that just as the ark saved the eight people on board, so also baptism saves us

V 11 – **Where else has Paul just quoted this Old Testament verse?** *Romans 9.33*
-Once we place our faith in Christ, we will not be disappointed (it will make such a great change in our lives)

V 12 – **What has the New Testament done to the old view that the Jews were superior to all other people?** It has destroyed that belief

V 13 – “To call upon” = “to rely upon” - See *Acts 22.16*

V 14 – **Where does belief in Christ begin?** With the preaching of the gospel

V 15 – **What obligation to Christians have?** To financially support those who want to preach the gospel
-What did Paul say about the feet of preachers and missionaries? They are beautiful feet
-Many times people will complain about the preaching of a certain person at a congregation, and yet those same people make no attempt whatsoever to encourage their own boys and men to go into preaching
-And they would never consider giving financial support to any man going to a school of preaching or entering into a Christian college to prepare to preach
-As we sometime say, it is better to light a candle than curse the darkness

Romans 10.16-21

V 16 – But even with good preaching, many people will not listen to the message and obey it

V 17 – **Had the Jews of Paul’s day heard the gospel?** Absolutely
-Paul again emphasizes the importance of the preaching of the word

V 18 – **How widespread has the preaching of the gospel been?** Worldwide (there is no excuse for people to say in the Day of Judgment that they had no access to the gospel)

V 19 – To make the Jews jealous (and knowledgeable), the gospel was given to the Gentiles
-*Acts 28.22* – Even the Jews in Rome had heard of Christ (Paul met with them even before meeting with the Christians)
-Who preached to the Gentiles first? Peter
-Where in the Bible? Cornelius in *Acts 10-11*
-Peter learned not to call any person common or unclean, and thus preached to the Gentiles for the first time

V 20 – A reference to whom? The Gentiles

V 21 – Examples in *Acts* of the obstinate nature of Jews:

- Stoning of Stephen – *Acts 7.58*
- Paul let down in basket at Damascus to keep from being killed by the Jews – *Acts 9.25*
- Paul stoned at Lystra at the instigation of the Jews – *Acts 14.19*
- Jewish Christians at Jerusalem wrote to Antioch urging circumcision – *Acts 15.1*
- Paul at Jerusalem was attacked by the Jewish mob at the temple – *Acts 21.27*
- The Jewish assassins swore to kill Paul – *Acts 23.14*
- Paul was mistreated by the Jewish lawyer Tertullus – *Acts 24.1*
- God had stretched out his arms to the Jews, but the majority of them to this day have rejected God's offer of love through his son Jesus Christ
- When we consider the love that God had for the Jewish people, it is stunning that they literally hated his son!

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