

ROMANS 10:1-11

LESSON 37

Let us start our study by humbling ourselves before the Lord, knowing that we cannot understand this passage without God's help. Ask God to teach and open your eyes so that you may understand His Word.

In chapters 5-8 we will see **the results** of solution (3:21-31) to man's **problem** (1:18-3:20), which is **LIFE**. In Chapters 9-11 Paul answers the question, what about Israel? How do they relate past, present and future to God's plan of salvation?

Assignment: This is a difficult chapter for many to grasp. With chapter 9 in mind, read through Chapter 10 several times. Attempt to answer the following discussion questions:

Interpretive Note: Romans 9:30-33 is a transition from God's elective choice (ch. 9) to human responsibility (ch. 10), from Israel's past election (ch. 9) to their current unbelief (ch. 10).

1. *REVIEW:* What was 9:1-29 about?
2. *REVIEW:* From 9:30-33, describe the two ways man relates to the Stone. Explain
3. Looking at the context (follow the pronouns,) who is the "them" in 10:1? Describe Paul's attitude toward them. Do you have that same attitude toward the lost? Does that attitude manifest itself in prayer for them?
4. Looking at 10:2-3, were "they" sincere in their religious belief? Can one be sincere and wrong? What was wrong with their "zeal for God?" (10:2) Explain
5. From 10:3, make observations from Paul's explanation why these were not saved.
6. From 10:3-5, do you think the unsaved Jews thought obeying the commands of the law was a reachable endeavor?
7. How does Paul rebuke such a notion (10:3) in 10:4? How is Christ "the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes" (Rom 10:4)? See Romans 3:20, 1Timothy 1:8-12, Galatians 3:23-26 also.
8. In 10:5, how does Paul continue to explain how the notion that one can establish their own righteousness by law keeping is in error?

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INTERPRETIVE NOTE: In contrast to works righteousness, which is impossible and does not save, Paul in 10:6-9 now rhetorically personifies “the righteousness based on faith” and shares what it says.

9. In 10:6-8, Paul continues to rebuke the notion that one can establish their own righteousness by law keeping by quoting the Old Testament. Read Romans 10:4-9 and then read Deuteronomy 30:10-14, then answer the following:
- a. What does the term “this commandment (singular)” in 30:11, refer to? Does it refer to the keeping of His commandments and statutes (plural) in the Law (30:10a) or to the singular command to “turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and soul” (Deut. 30:10b)? Which command is not too difficult or out of reach, keeping the Law or truly turning to God with you whole heart?
 - b. With you answer to a. in mind, what is the point God is making through Moses in Duet. 30:11-14?
 - c. What does the righteousness that is by faith warn us not to say in our hearts? (Remember: Paul is personifying this righteousness to make a point)
 - d. Thinking of Moses’ point in Duet. and Paul’s point here in Rom., what does righteousness based on faith not do?
 - e. In contrast, to the impossibility of works righteousness, what does the “righteousness based on faith” say in 10:8?
10. From 10:9-11, briefly describe what the “word of faith” Paul was preaching is?
11. From our lesson, what way of seeking righteousness makes attaining salvation impossible? What way is near us and open to all?

NOTE: WE WILL REVIEW 10:8-11 IN DETAIL NEXT WEEK