

Romans

Lesson 12: Romans 10

The central truth of Christianity that sets it apart from all other religions is that salvation comes through faith in Christ alone and not of works. It is this truth that sets Christianity apart from Judaism as well. As Paul continues to write at this point in Romans, his main concern is still for the Jews and God's plan for them. As we saw in chapter 9, the rejection of Christ by the Jews is a part of God's sovereign plan of redemption. They have stumbled over Him and do not have the righteousness of God because they have tried to attain salvation by the works of the law instead of faith in Christ. While this is a part of God's plan, the Jews are also responsible for rejecting Christ. As we saw at the beginning of chapter 9, this brought great sorrow to Paul's heart. He continues writing in chapter 10 with the same sorrow as he desires salvation for the Jews. Let's dive in and see what Paul says about God's plan of salvation and Israel's failure to receive the gospel.

➤ **Read Romans 10:1–4**

1. In verse 1, who does “them” refer to (see 9:30–33)? What does Paul desire for “them”?

Application: Do you have a desire to see the lost saved? What are ways you show this in your life?

2. In verse 2, what was wrong with the Jew's “zeal for God”?
3. According to verse 3, how were the Jews trying to be in a right relationship with God?
4. According to verse 4, how does a person end their quest to try and earn a right standing before God?

➤ **Read Romans 10:5–13**

5. In verse 5, Paul refers to Moses' words in Leviticus 18:5. What is Paul's point about the man who practices the righteousness that is based on the law? (see Galatians 3:10–12; James 2:10)
6. In verses 6 and 7, Paul personifies "righteousness based on faith" and makes it speak. To "ascend into heaven" or to "descend into the abyss" meant doing an impossible task. Paul's point is that righteousness by faith is not something that is impossible. What did Israel have to do to obtain this righteousness? (Hint: see verse 4)
7. According to verse 8, why was salvation easily obtainable?
8. In verses 9–10, Paul talks about the mouth and the heart. What must a person do to be saved?
Mouth: _____
Heart: _____
9. Why must a person believe in the resurrection of Christ to be saved? (see 1 Corinthians 15:1–19)
10. In verse 11, Paul quotes from Isaiah 28:16. Why is it important that Paul quote from the Old Testament to show salvation by faith?
11. According to verses 12–13, who does Paul say God will save? Why would this be shocking to Jews?

Application: Circle the correct answer. Is the gospel exclusive? YES NO
Is the gospel narrow? YES NO
Why are these two truths so important to know?

➤ **Read Romans 10:14–17**

12. In verses 14–15, what are the steps that must be taken for someone to be saved? (Hint: begin in verse 15 and work back through verse 14)

13. According to verse 16, what did Israel do with the gospel message they were given?

14. According to verse 17, how does someone come to faith in Christ?

Application: Imagine for a moment that you were a missionary in another country. How would verses 14–17 motivate and encourage you? How does it motivate and encourage you now?

➤ **Read Romans 10:18–21**

15. According to verse 18, why was Israel responsible for rejecting the gospel?

16. In verse 19, who is “that which is not a nation” referring to?

17. According to verse 20, who are “those who did not seek Me” and “those who did not ask for Me” referring to?

18. According to verse 21, why did Israel not believe the gospel?

Application: What is your response when someone rejects the gospel that you share with them? How has chapter 10 given you encouragement?

Application: What one verse impacted you the most in this study? Explain.