

Romans – Justified through faith

Week 18 – Romans 10 (God’s dismay over Israel’s disobedience)

1. Ignorance of God’s righteousness (v1-4)

Paul begins, as he did in Romans 9, with more earnest expressions of his desire for Israel to be saved and then explains that as their zeal is not based on knowledge of the truth they’ve substituted their own, legalistic, righteousness for God’s that can only be received through faith.

“Once we grasp the decisive nature of Christ’s saving work we see the irrelevance of all legalism.”

- Dr. Leon Morris

2. Alternative ways of righteousness (v5-13)

- a. Paul contrasts writings of Moses against other writings of Moses to highlight the difference in righteousness by law vs. that by faith. The first quote (v5) is showing that you MUST live by the law to be righteous; and we know by now that this is impossible as we are unable to keep it. He then (v6 & 7) asks who can ascend into heaven or descend into the deep to seek another form of righteousness (to bring Christ down or up) and concludes (v8) that this is unnecessary as Christ has already come and is near us, readily accessible.
- b. We then get a wonderful summary of the Gospel’s message (v9, 10 & 11) stating exactly how we can be saved, not by a slogan but by faith in the one we confess.
- c. Finally Paul re-affirms the passage Peter quoted (Acts 2:21) at Pentecost – that all who call on the name of the Lord will be saved. There’s no distinction anymore between a Jewish believer and Gentile believer.

3. The necessity of evangelism (v14-15)

Paul then explains that evangelism is imperative, the lost cannot call on the Lord for salvation unless, ultimately, we go and preach the Gospel.

4. The reason for Israel’s unbelief (v16-21)

Paul asks rhetorical questions and answers them himself. Eventually he concludes, through more quotations from scripture, that it’s Israel’s own disobedience and obstinacy that has caused them to miss out on their salvation. However there is hope in the statement that God has held out his hands to them ‘all day long’.

Split into three groups and pray for the three Community Church activities coming up this Sunday.

Memory Verse:

“If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” – Romans 10:9