

Romans Chapter 10

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. Shows Paul's deep love and concern. This letter made them the maddest. He had no bad feelings. Salvation is the most important thing.

He prayed for it.

Paul says they have great zeal for God. Their opposition to the Gospel was because of their great love for the Law. Law was from God. They were zealous for the Law but did not understand how this would lead to Messiah.

They were trying to be righteous . Did not recognize salvation by Grace. First lesson is to deny ourselves. Could not understand the righteousness that God provides. Phil 3:9 we don't have our own righteousness from the Law through faith in Christ. Could not understand a crucified Redeemer.

Christ was the end of the Law. Gal 3:24 - schoolmaster that drives us to Christ. Law was a shadow of what was coming. He does not destroy the Law but fulfills it. By Grace we are justified.

Quotes Deut 30:12-14

Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down from above)

or, "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

Applies it to Salvation. Deut had a clear picture of it here. It is not complicated, it is not far off. We don't have to go to these other places to find it. The Word is near. Jesus says in Luke 17:21 - the Kingdom of God is within you. Christ has done all this. We can find it. It is evident. We don't have to look for it. The Word is in your heart. The Word of faith which we preach.

There is the Promise of salvation. Christ is the Author. What is needed are confession and faith. What must be confessed is that Jesus is Lord. That He has full authority over us; that he has universal Sovereignty. The Resurrection is the ultimate sign . Proves he is the Son of God.

At the end, every tongue will confess Phil 2:11.

The heart - deep conviction. The will. Sincerity. True enlightenment. The mouth then confesses. To God and also to other men - evangelization and witness.

V11 quotes Isaiah : whoever believes in Him will not be ashamed. This is universal.

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.

For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Also in Col 3:11.

Joel 2:32 prophesies He who calls upon the Name of the Lord will be saved. Dedication and dependence on Him. He is Lord over all. All can equally hope in His mercy.

V 14-15 : this is how Paul brought the Gentiles to the promise. Jews didn't like it. They can't call on God if they don't believe. Without faith we can't pray rightly; cannot please God Heb 11:6. He must be made known to them. Hear of the Divine Revelation. The preacher of the Word is like an ambassador. We are used in ministry. He is the Lord of the harvest. Bring Good News - Isa 52:7. Greek means a message addressed to the ears.

Gospel of peace - reconciliation between God and man. Not everyone who hears it will believe it.

Jews would have never believed that Gentiles could be true worshippers. God had adapted a method to reach all men.

The Word went out over all the earth. Great Commission.

V 19- 20 : Did Israel know? They should have known from Moses and Isaiah. Deut 32:12. Isa 65 : 1-2. The nations will move the Jews to jealousy. Isaiah says it more boldly. He manifests Himself to the Gentiles by sending the Gospel among them. They were not searching and not ready. But they accepted the Word.

V21 ; He stretches out His hand to Israel all the time - a gesture of invitation. Also of helping them. Patience toward rebellious Israel. Stiff necked people.

Disobedient and contrary people ; not only did they not obey, they argued against it.