

NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL

What It Means To Be Free In Christ

Discussion Guide
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Volume VI: Israel's Future

Sermon Title:

Praying for the Lost

by Paul Martin

Romans 10: 1-21

Introduction: Having explained God's purposes and sovereign choice in developing the nation of Israel as a witness of His character to the world, Paul now turns his attention to the sad reality that they themselves have become the "unbelievers" with respect to the great message of the Gospel.

Sermon Outline

- I. **The essence of all religion—to establish personal righteousness (vv.1-5)**
 - A. All religious efforts are aimed at establishing a personal righteousness that will qualify one for eternal life.
 - B. This is in ignorance of a knowledge of God's true moral character and standard
 - C. Efforts to attain self righteousness require total adherence to one's own standard—in practice even that is impossible
- II. **The essence of the Gospel—to receive God's gift of righteousness by faith (vv.6-11)**
 - A. God offers an exchange: His righteousness by faith for my vain efforts
 - B. The heart of the Gospel message
 1. Believing in the heart
 2. Confessing with the mouth
 - C. There is no "bait-and-switch" and no disillusionment with God's offer
- III. **The necessity of witnessing to the good news and proclaiming the message (vv. 12-17)**
 - A. We are compelled to proclaim the message
 - B. We are compelled to support the mission
 - C. The eternal destiny of every human being begins with hearing the gospel
- IV. **The sad truth of the nation of Israel is that they have rejected their Messiah (vv.18-21)**
 - A. The Law & the Prophets witnessed to the unbelief
 - B. The Gentiles gladly received the message
 - C. Even today Israel remains resistant to the Gospel, despite God's persistent Love!

Conclusion: Not only for the Jews, but for all people everywhere, we must pray for their salvation, we must send out the messengers, we must proclaim the message. This is a divine mandate, and nothing touches the heart of God more than a people who are intent on sharing His heart and passion for a lost world!

Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. ² For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. ³ For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. ⁵ For Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on law shall live by that righteousness. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith speaks as follows: "DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' (that is, to bring Christ down), ⁷ or 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)."

Romans 10: 1-7 (NASB)



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Discussion Questions

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⁸ 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 are preaching, ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; ¹³ for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." ¹⁴ How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"

Romans 10: 8-15 (NASB)

6.) xx

7.) xx

8.)xx

16 However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. 18 But I say, surely they have never heard, have they? Indeed they have; "THEIR VOICE HAS GONE OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH, AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD." 19 But I say, surely Israel did not know, did they? First Moses says, "I WILL MAKE YOU JEALOUS BY THAT WHICH IS NOT A NATION, BY A NATION WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WILL I ANGER YOU." 20 And Isaiah is very bold and says, "I WAS FOUND BY THOSE WHO DID NOT SEEK ME, I BECAME MANIFEST TO THOSE WHO DID NOT ASK FOR ME." 21 But as for Israel He says, "ALL THE DAY LONG I HAVE STRETCHED OUT MY HANDS TO A DISOBEDIENT AND OBSTINATE PEOPLE."

Romans 10: 16-21 (NASB)

