

Romans Session 152
Israel's Failure Was Ignorance of the Person of God
Ignorance of the place of Faith 5

Romans 10:8-10 (NASB)

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.*

We have been looking at the two basic things we must believe to be saved.

1. We must believe that Jesus is Lord
2. We must believe that God raised Him from the dead.

We have been looking at the first one, and further on that one. We would have to say that contrary to much teaching today, Scripture never separates Christ's lordship from His Saviorhood.

Lord is from *kurios*, which signifies sovereign power and authority.

In the book of Acts, Jesus is twice referred to as Savior but ninety-two times as Lord.

In the entire New Testament, He is referred to some ten times as Savior and some seven hundred times as Lord.

When these two titles are mentioned together, *Lord* always precedes *Savior*.

And even if, as some erroneously contend, *Lord* were simply a synonym for God, the very term God by definition, includes the idea of sovereign authority, that is of Lordship.

So, we must believe that He is Lord!!

Second taking up the next truth we should believe, we must believe that **God raised Him from the Dead.**

The reason being that His resurrection was the supreme validation of His ministry.

At the beginning of this letter, Paul states that Jesus Christ;

Romans 1:1-4 (NASB)

¹ *Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,*

² *which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,*

³ *concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh,*

⁴ *who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,*

When **God raised Him from the dead**, the Father was declaring again that the Savior was His beloved Son, with whom He is well pleased.

The resurrection of Christ also demonstrated that He was eternally victorious over sin, death, and Satan.

It was,

Romans 4:24 (NASB)

²⁴ *but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,*

Mankind must believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ because it proves that He accomplished their salvation on the cross.

To believe that **God raised Christ from the dead** is to identify ourselves with the One who purchased our redemption on the cross and rose to share His eternal life with those for whom He is Lord and Savior.

Had Jesus not been raised, sin and death would have been victorious over fallen mankind, who then would have had no hope of attaining the perfect righteousness that God requires.

In Antioch of Pisidia, Paul told the assembled Jews in the synagogue,

Acts 13:32-33 (NASB)

³² *"And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers,*

³³ *that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, 'YOU ARE MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU.'*

Proclaiming the same foundational truth of the gospel, Pete said,

1 Peter 1:3-4 (NASB)

³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

⁴ *to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,*

Apart from Christ's resurrection there could be no salvation.

Paul warned the Church at Corinth that;

1 Corinthians 15:14-17 (NASB)

¹⁴ *and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.*

¹⁵ *Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised.*

¹⁶ *For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised;*

¹⁷ *and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.*

The resurrection was the Father's final stamp of approval on His Son and the final feature in the provision of salvation for those who trust in Him.

The resurrection divinely certifies that Jesus is the Messiah, the only Savior, the sovereign and sinless Lord, the sacrificial Lamb who paid the price for our redemption, the judge of all men, the conqueror of death, the coming King of kings.

Both verses 9 and 10 both clearly state that true belief in Christ's Lordship and in His resurrection comes from the **heart**. The Hebrews considered the heart to be the core of personhood and the residence of the soul, the deepest, innermost part of man where thought, will, and motive are generated.

That is why the ancient writer admonished his fellow Israelites,

Proverbs 4:23 (NASB)

²³ *Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life.*

It is **with the heart** that **man believes**, and it is therefore with his heart that man determines his eternal destiny. Early in His ministry Jesus spoke the beautiful words;

John 3:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*

Later, He declared,

John 8:12 (NASB)

¹² *Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."*

In both instances the positive and the negative aspects of the gospel are again clearly seen in 3:16 *Eternal Life*, is the positive, and *perish* is the negative.

In 8:12 *the light of life* is the positive and *walking in darkness* is the negative.

John's very purpose for writing the fourth gospel was stated;

John 20:31 (NASB)

³¹ *but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.*

Belief in Christ brings an entirely different kind and quality of life, a holy life, a righteous life, and eternal life.

It is **with the mouth** that man **confesses**. Paul says, *Homologeō (confess)* has the root meaning of speaking the same thing, of being in agreement and accord with someone.

The person who confesses Jesus as Lord (v9) agrees with God the Father, and that confession mixed with genuine trust brings **salvation**.

Israel misunderstood the place of this saving faith. So do many people today.

Paul now lays out the parameters of Salvation. And then we see the prediction of Scripture.

THE PARAMETERS OF SALVATION

Romans 10:11-18 (NASB)

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!"*

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."

Paul goes on now to explain the parameters of Salvation, the extent, of salvation.

Because most Jews strongly rejected the idea that God's grace extended to gentiles, they were willingly ignorant of the full measure and extend of His provision for redemption.

Because they were God's specially chosen people, they believed they were also His only saved people.

They knew, of course, that Ruth, a Moabite, was the great grandmother of David and therefore in the line of the Messiah. But they insisted that such Gentiles who converted to Judaism and were blessed by God were exceptions that proved the rule.

Consequently, just as they had rejected Jesus and His teaching they also vehemently rejected the teaching of Paul, a former zealous Pharisee and persecutor of the church, who now not only claimed that Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ, but that Christ had appointed him to be a chosen instrument to bear His name before the Gentiles

Acts 9:10-15 (NASB)

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."

¹¹ And the Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying,

¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight."

¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem;

¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name."

¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;

And Paul said to the Galatians;

Galatians 1:15-16 (NASB)

¹⁵ But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased

¹⁶ to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood,

Paul declares that God's extending His salvations to all Gentiles was nothing new.

That gracious offer did not begin with the all-in-inclusive gospel of Jesus Christ, which Christians, most of whom were Jews, were then proclaiming to everyone who would hear.

To the contrary, as Paul already cited;

Romans 9:33 (NASB)

³³ just as it is written, "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

Paul was citing Isaiah;

Isaiah 28:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ *Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed.*

God had always been calling to Gentiles (**whoever**). in fact, Israel was to have been His witness nation,

Exodus 19:5-6 (NASB)

⁵ *'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine;*

⁶ *and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."*

They were to preach salvation in the true God to the rest of the world.

The Old Testament Scripture, as;

Romans 3:21-22 (NASB)

²¹ *But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,*

²² *even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;*

In other words, salvation through faith in Him for anyone (**whoever believes**) has always been God's plan.

Paul declared earlier;

Romans 1:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

Paul assured the believers at Corinth, many of whom were Gentiles,

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ *Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*

From eternity past, God's Word invariably has accomplished His divine goal, which has always included His loving and gracious desire that no human being would perish but that He is;

2 Peter 3:9c (NASB)

⁹ *not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance*

We will talk more of this next time.