

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Romans 10:13)

I. The Wrong Righteousness (vv.1-13)

- a. In this chapter Paul addressed the reasons for Israel's rejection of Jesus Christ, as the Messiah.
- b. As a nation, they did not feel a need for salvation that was for the Gentiles. They would have accepted political salvation from Roman control, but that was Lord's purpose.
- c. They were zealous for God. (v.2) Ever since Israel returned from Babylonian captivity, they were cured from idol worship. They taught the Law and enforced it.
 1. They added their own traditions in an effort to "improve on the Law."
 2. Their zeal was not based on knowledge (meaning they lacked an experiential understanding of God). They became zealous for the letter of the Law instead of God Himself.
 3. They misunderstood their own Law. (vv.4-13) Everything about the Jewish religion pointed to the coming of the Messiah (sacrifices, priesthood, temple services, festivals and covenants)
 4. Pride and prejudice blinded them from the reality of recognizing Jesus. No one owns God.
- d. Israel's failed to experience faith in the midst of their works. Today, our churches must be on guard from this.
- e. The only way an unbeliever (Jew or Gentile) can be saved is by believing and calling on the Lord.
- f. Christ broke the dividing wall and now there is no distinction. (vv.12-13) The status or class of a person's birth does not grant them greater access to salvation.
- g. God can reach anyone He chooses with the truth.

II. Where the Law Failed the Gospel Prevailed

- a. The Law is for those who have life enough to do good works. The gospel does not regard us as having life (for the wages of sin is death), but as needing life.
- b. The gospel says not only shall we live by it, but that we shall be saved by it.
- c. What does it mean to be saved? It means to be rescued from the punishment of all your sins.
 1. *Saved* also means the absolute removal of all guilt. Our crimes against God are blotted out.
 2. Our salvation has given us freedom from the power of sin, which means we do not have to keep on sinning. Salvation is freedom, deliverance and a newly found power, but we must walk in *it*.
- d. Are you living the reality of your freedom?
- e. Everyone needs the gospel message. How will they hear the gospel message and who will tell it?

III. Thoughts and Considerations for Action ("I Love To Tell The Story")

- a. The gospel is God's story about His plan for saving mankind. Peter, James, John, Paul, Timothy and all believers are now part of the gospel story.
- b. We are in the best position to tell our story about our freedom, deliverance and new found power. *How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news.* (v. 15)
- c. The word "feet" refers to swiftness or the rapid approach of the messenger.
- d. *Hearing* (v.17) means "report." We report the good news, knowing that some will believe and others will not.
- e. We tell "faith facts" under these headlines: "My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness.