

The Book of Romans - Part 34

Living for the Lord is the best life, and today on "It's a Good Life," we're going to continue our study in the book of Romans and we're going to pick up with Romans chapter 10 and verse 6.

The Bible says there, reading through verse 9, *6But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:) 7Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) 8But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

What Paul is saying here is you don't need to bring Christ down from Heaven. The Father sent the Son. He has already come. It has already happened, and according to I Timothy 1:15, the Bible says, *Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners....* And it's a glorious accomplished fact that He did come into this world. Now, Christ does not need to be raised from the dead, according to Paul. It's already happened. It's already been done, according to the Word of God. It is a fact that must be believed, and Romans 10:9 says, *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

Christ Jesus has accomplished all that is necessary for man's salvation. He has descended to the Earth, He did die on the cross, and He has risen from the dead. And these great facts need to be believed and preached.

Now, there's a wide difference between true Christianity and all religions of the world. The religions of the world can be summed up by two

letters: D-O, "do," whereas true Christianity can be summed up by four letters: D-O-N-E, "done." Who can tell the relief to a burdened heart when it discovers that all is done and all has been accomplished by another? In John 19:30, *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.*

In these verses that we just read in Romans 10:6-9, Paul is letting people know that what was and is impossible for man to do, Christ has done.

Notice with me if you would, the words Paul uses here are taken from Deuteronomy 30:11-14. Those verses say this: *11For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off. 12It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? 13Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? 14But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.*

You see, faith says do not question what has already been accomplished by Christ. And we see that in Romans 10:6-7, and then we see faith says the Truth or the Word is close to you. Your mouth has confessed it. It is in your heart. It is the truth about faith that we proclaim or preach, Romans 10:8.

Now these people had faith, the Word. They spoke the Word and the Word was in their hearts. They were saved, Romans 10:9. Paul says the faith we preach, verse 8, is the faith for you to proclaim or to preach, believing by faith, believing in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead means you will be delivered, or saved, according to Romans 10:9 and Romans

10:1.

I want you to know here that faith comes before confession, Romans 10:9. The more we confess or preach Jesus, *The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart....* The more we preach that, the more we have the confidence of knowing Jesus is all and in all. To confess that Jesus is the Christ means that a person agrees that Jesus is indeed the Messiah, John 1:41. John 4:25-26 and 4:42 talk about this.

According to the Old Testament Scriptures, Messiah was portrayed as, first of all, the God Man, Isaiah 7:14. Then we see that the Old Testament Scriptures say that He's the mighty God, Isaiah 9:6. He's the sinner's substitute and Savior, Isaiah 53:4. He's the eternal King, according to Micah 5:2. In fact, He is the Lord Jehovah, our righteousness, according to Jeremiah 23:5-6. As believers in Christ, may we, like Timothy, confess a good confession before all men. First Timothy 6:12 says, *Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.*

Now, what does Romans 10:10 say? It says, *For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.* Notice, if you would, it is because of righteousness that mankind can believe with the heart, and also, it is because of salvation that mankind is able to acknowledge righteousness. Now these verses do not mean that confession is a condition of salvation, but rather, confession is a natural result or evidence of salvation. Sometimes we try to put a condition on salvation, but God says there is no condition. The only condition was met by Jesus Christ when He shed His blood on the cross of Calvary. We must believe that.

Romans 10:11 says, *For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.* Now, the Scripture spoken of here is

Isaiah 28:16. It says there, *Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.* Or, in other words, shall not be ashamed.

I Peter 2:6 says, *Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded... or ashamed; that's what the word "confounded" there means, "ashamed."*

Romans 9:33 says, *As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.* It makes no difference because whosoever receives Jesus will not be ashamed, or embarrassed by, confounded by, because of Him. Why? Because Romans 10:12 says, *For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.*

It makes no difference who the person is who trusts Jesus as Savior, because he is the same Lord. He's the same Savior for everybody, for the Jew, for those people who are Gentiles, for anyone in this world who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

There's no difference, because all have sinned, according to Romans 3:22-23, because it says, *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

Romans 10:13 says, *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Man does the calling. God does the saving. "Whosoever" is an emphatic form of "whoever." It makes no difference. Whoever does this shall be saved.

Romans 10:14-15 say this, ¹⁴*How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*

How shall the “whosoever,” in other words, be saved if they have not heard about Him? About Jesus? And how shall the “whosoever” hear about Jesus without someone proclaiming Him? And how shall someone proclaim Jesus without being sent? In Matthew 28 we have the answer to that in verses 18-20. ¹⁸*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

As it is written in Isaiah 52:7, those who proclaim the Gospel have beautiful, excellent feet. According to Romans 10:15, we see that also, and in Ephesians 6:15, we are to go. We have been given the Great Commission, that is, we are the ones who are to preach the Gospel to this world. Isaiah 52:7 says, *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!* And in Ephesians 6:15, *And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.* That's us. We are to have our feet ready to go, prepared to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ: Jesus saves.

Well, the next section of this Scripture in the book of Romans chapter 10, we look at Israel's neglect of the Gospel. They neglected to take the Gospel. In Romans 10:16-18, we see that not all obeyed the Gospel as it was given to the Jewish people.

And I wonder today, have you obeyed the Gospel? Have you trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Some people are trying to work their way to Heaven. Well, that doesn't work. Works does not work. You can work your fingers to the bone and still go to Hell. The Bible tells us that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved, Romans 10:13 that we just looked at. It doesn't say that whosoever works hard will go to Heaven. It doesn't say that whosoever belongs to a Baptist church will go to Heaven. It doesn't say that whosoever shall belong to the Presbyterian, Methodist, Catholic, or whatever denomination or belief you have. That's not going to take you to Heaven. It's only by trusting Jesus Christ will anyone ever go to Heaven. *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us,* Titus 3:5.

Have you trusted Him? Ask Him to come into your heart today. Jesus wants to save you right now.

Go to our Website today at www.LRWM.org. On that Website you'll see more information on how to be saved and how to know that you are on your way to Heaven. Make sure today that you're saved.

Until the next time when you hear me say, “It is a good life,” may the Lord bless you richly in my prayer.