

# Gospel Paradox - Zeal & Faith

## Rom 9:30-10:21 Israel & the Nations

### I. Romans- Gospel of the Righteousness of God

#### A. Rom 1-8 Gospel Source of Salvation

Rom 8:39 [Nothing] in all creation, **will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. [slide 1]**

#### B. Rom 12-16 Response and Application of Salvation

Rom 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, ...

#### C. Rom 9-11 The Israel Issue

Israel is the only nation in the world with a complete history—past, present, and future. Yet in Paul's experience — Most Jews rejected, Church becoming predominantly Gentile.

##### 1. Past Election & Divine Sovereignty– Ch 9

Israel's history magnified God's faithfulness, righteousness, justice, and grace

##### 2. Present Rejection & Human Responsibility– Ch 10

##### 3. Future Restoration & God's Glory – Ch 11

### II. Running the Race (9:30-10:4)

#### A. Not Running yet Winning (30)

**What shall we say? Israel**, focused on the requirements of the law, missed believing in the promises. Like a marriage reduced to checklists. **Gentiles** are streaming into the kingdom because they have embraced the free gift of righteousness through faith.

Rom 9:30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who **did not pursue righteousness** have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith;

### **B. Running but not Winning (31)**

Ro 9:31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law.

### **C. Faith, Works, and Stumbling (32)**

Rom 9:32 Why? Because they **did not pursue it by faith**, but **as if** it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone,  
**How we run: Faith or Works**

### **D. Christ Crucified: Stumbling / Offense (33)**

Rom 9:33 as it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will **not be put to shame.**" (Isa 28:16; 8:14; Joel 2:27)

1Cor 1:22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, **23** but we preach **Christ crucified**, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, **24** but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

### **E. Love, Prayer, & Zeal without Encounter (10:1-2)**

Ro 10:1 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. **2** For I **bear them witness** that they have a **zeal for God**, but **not according to knowledge.**

### **F. Self or God Righteousness (3)**

Ro 10:3 For, being **ignorant** of the **righteousness of God**, and **seeking to establish** their own, they **did not submit** to **God's righteousness.**

Unaware of divine righteousness (Gen 15:6; Is 55:9)

establishing righteousness (comparative within this world)  
cannot submit to the transcendent (superlative; supernatural)

## G. Christ — Consummation of the Law (4)

Rom 10:4 For Christ is the **end\* of the law** for righteousness to **every-one** who believes. *\*Gk. telos*

A new era has begun!

The analogy of a race course (which *telos* conveys) is helpful: the finish line is **both** the “**termination**” of the race (the race is over) and the “**goal**” of the race (finish line is WHY the race is run).

Verse 4 is **the hinge on which the entire section turns**. It justifies Paul’s claim that the Jews, by their narrow focus on the law, have missed God’s righteousness (9:30–10:3): for righteousness is **now found only in Christ** and **only through faith** in Christ, who brought the law to its climax and thereby **ended its reign**. It also announces righteousness by faith in Christ.

## III. The Righteousness of Faith

### A. The frustration is over (5)

Rom 10:5 ***For Moses writes*** about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them.

### B. The Language of Personal Faith

*Do Not Speak of Self-Effort Dt 30:12-13*

Rom 10:6 But ***the righteousness based on faith says***, “**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).

*Do Speak of Faith Dt. 30:14*

Rom 10:8 But what does it say? “**The word is near you, in** your mouth and **in** your heart” (that is, **the word of faith** that we proclaim);

This way of faith was the burden of his preaching, the word that **tells of faith** and that **invites to faith**.

### C. Set Free By Faith & Confession (9-11)

Content of the WORD of FAITH must be external & internal

Rom 10:9 because, if you **confess with your mouth** that Jesus is Lord and **believe in your heart** that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [slide 2]

**Outward**... confess and live in light of the fact that **Jesus is Lord**. Deity of Christ ... 6000+x in LXX for the name of God.

Among Gentiles for both deity & Emperor <worshipped as a god>

**Inward**... base your trust on the fact that **God raised him from the dead**

To Paul it matters **that** we believe, but it also matters **what** we believe. **God raised him from the dead**.

YOU WILL BE SAVED!

Rom 10:10 For **with the heart** one believes and is justified (Lit. **believes into righteousness**), and **with the mouth** one confesses and is saved (Lit. **confesses into salvation**).

INWARD.... heart faith justification

OUTWARD... mouth confession salvation

### D. Salvation for All Who Call (11-13)

Rom 10:11 For the Scripture says, “**Everyone** who believes in him will not be \*put to shame.” \* OT phrase for judgment.

12 For there is **no distinction** between Jew and Greek; for the **same** Lord is **Lord of all**, bestowing his riches on **all who call on him**.

13 For “**everyone** who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

EVERYONE receives the unsearchable riches. All who call upon him!

God's unmerited grace demands man's positive response. Inherent in God's eternal plan of salvation is man's obedient faith

## IV. The Commission to Proclaim (14-17)

### A. Need for Proclamation [slide 3]

**Rom 10:14** How then will (subj. NIV *can*) they **call** on him in whom they have **not believed**? And how are they to **believe** in him of whom they have **never heard**? And how are they to **hear without** someone **preaching**?

**15** And how are they to preach **unless they are sent**? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" [slide 4]

To **Call** we **must believe**

to believe we **must hear**

to hear someone **must preach**

to preach one **must be sent**.

Christ is in the preachers; to hear them is to hear him

**Luke 10:16** "The one who hears **you** hears **me**, and the one who rejects **you** rejects **me**, and the one who rejects me rejects **him who sent me**."

A herald faithfully proclaims what he has heard. A herald must be sent. The TENSION of unbelief cannot stop the herald.

**16** But they have **not all obeyed** the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?"

### B. Summary & Conclusion (17)

**Rom 10:17** So **faith** comes from hearing, and **hearing** through the **word of Christ**.

Response to God's Word is the only way to salvation.

Salvation does not come by intuition, mystical experience, meditation, speculation, philosophizing, or consensus but by hearing and having faith in the word of Christ.

To proclaim the saving word of Christ is the central and essential purpose of evangelism to “go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.”

### C. Don't Let the Tension Stop You!

**Rom 10:18** But I ask, have they not **heard**? Indeed they have, for  
“Their voice has gone out to all the earth,  
and their words to the ends of the world.” (Ps 19:4)

**19** But I ask, did Israel not **understand**? First **Moses** says,  
“I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation;  
with a foolish nation I will make you angry.” (Dt 32:21)

**20** Then **Isaiah** is so bold as to say,  
“I have been found by those who did not seek me; (Is 65:1)  
I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.”

**21** But of Israel he says, “All day long I have held out my hands to a  
disobedient and contrary people.” (Is 65:2)

## V. Release ENCOUNTER, FAITH, BOLDNESS

All Israel shall be saved! All the ends of the earth will know.

**Rev 7 — 144,000 of Israel, a multitude no man can number!**  
[slide 5]

Salvation belongs to our **God** who **sits** on the throne, and to  
the **Lamb!** [slide 6]

**PRAYER — “Catch me up in your story, all my life for  
your glory” All the Earth will be filled with His Glory**

**BOLDNESS**

**POWER**