

Contrary to Popular Opinion

Romans 10.1-13

Contrary to popular opinion, there are not many roads that lead to salvation. There is only one way to heaven. Tragically, many chose not to respond. That is the subject Paul addresses in this section of Romans.

The Error is Exposed

“Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.” Romans 10.1-4

Outlined before us are two avenues which we can choose.

The first is a righteousness which is generated by **our own initiative**.

The second is a righteousness generated by **divine initiative**.

*“Christ is the **end** of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.”*

The Truth is Explained

Now, he moves from the way of righteousness to the way of relationship. That is where Paul wanted his people, Israel, to come. He wanted them to come to a relationship with the living God. They needed to give a **fair consideration to Christ**.

“Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: ‘The man who does these things will live by them.’” Romans 10.5

“Keep my decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. I am the LORD.” Leviticus 18.5

“But the righteousness that is by faith says: ‘Do not say in your heart, Who will ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down) or Who will descend into the deep? (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).’” Romans 10.6-7

*“You may **say to yourself**, ‘My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.’”* Deuteronomy 8.17

*“After the LORD your God has driven them out before you, **do not say to yourself**, ‘The LORD has brought me here to take possession of this land because of my righteousness.’”* Deuteronomy 9.4

“It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, ‘Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?’ Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, ‘Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?’” Deuteronomy 30.12-13

“But what does it say? ‘The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,’ that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10.8-9

“No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.” Deuteronomy 30.14

“For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, ‘Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.’” Romans 10.10-11

“For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’” Romans 10.12-13

“And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.” Joel 2.32