

Romans 10:1-21
(Isaiah 52:7-10; John 3:16-17)
“To Everyone Who Believes”

Introduction

Everything that Paul says in these three chapters (9-11) serves to connect these two key verses: “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion” (9:15), which demonstrates God’s awesome sovereignty in salvation, and “For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all” (11:32), which demonstrates God’s awesome mercy toward sinners like you and me. In chapter nine, the emphasis is on God’s sovereignty in salvation. Now, in chapter ten, the emphasis turns to human responsibility in responding to God’s grace and in making that grace known.

Paul is especially concerned here that we not respond to God’s grace in a superficial way, making the same mistake as so many of his fellow countrymen who professed to be God’s people and thought themselves God’s people, while all the while missing the way of salvation.

Body

1. Zeal without knowledge is not enough (10:1-8).

The key: “Christ is the end (*telos*) of the law” (10:4).
Thus, the necessity of an *informed faith* based upon God’s Word.

2. Private conviction with out public confession is not enough (10:9-10).

The Key: “Jesus is Lord” (10:9).
Thus, the necessity of an *obedient faith* lived in submission to God’s Word.

3. Communal concern with out global vision is not enough (10:12-21).

The key: “The same Lord is Lord of all” (10:12).
Thus, the necessity of a *missional faith* willing to send where it cannot go.

Conclusion

Paul concludes by saying that his people have missed the way of life, not because they have failed to hear or failed to understand, but simply because of their stubbornness – they have not been willing to receive their Messiah. What a warning to us! Don’t miss the powerful simplicity of all this: Believe in God’s Messiah, confess him as Lord, and make his name known among the nations. This is what the Lord desires, indeed what he requires, of those who would claim his name and know his great salvation.

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