

Abounding Grace Christian Church

A Study through the Epistle to the Romans – Part 28

I. Exposition of Chapter Ten. (Continued)

A. Verses 9-10 (Continued)

1. God's righteousness is not gained by works (as Paul made plain in **verses 4-8**). Instead, we gain it by *confessing* and *believing* in the person and work of Jesus Christ.
2. **Verse 9** - "...confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus..." - When we confess the Lord Jesus, we are agreeing with what God said about Jesus, and with what Jesus said about Himself. It means we recognize that Jesus is God, that He is the Messiah, and that His work on the cross is the only way of salvation for mankind.
3. What is meant by Jesus being declared Lord? The Greek word for "Lord" is "kurios."
 - a. The Greek word "kurios" means; "the owner; one who has control of the person, the master; the sovereign, prince, chief..."¹

"The name "Jesus" is the transliteration of the Greek *Iēsous* (Ἰησοῦς), which in turn is the transliteration of the Hebrew name we know as "Jehoshua," the latter meaning, "Jehovah saves." The name "Lord" is *kurios* (κύριος) which in the Greek version of the Old Testament is used for the august name "Jehovah," and by its use, implies deity. Thus, to confess Jesus as Lord includes a heart belief in His deity, incarnation, vicarious atonement and bodily resurrection. Robertson says, "No Jew would do this who had not really trusted Christ, for *Kurios* (Κυριος) in the LXX is used of God. No Gentile would do it who had not ceased worshipping the emperor as *Kurios*..."²

4. "...and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead..."
 - a. The word "believe" means; "to be firmly persuaded as to something."; to believe to the extent of complete trust and reliance—"to believe in, to have confidence in, to have faith in, to trust, faith, trust."³
 - b. The meaning of the word "heart" is sometimes difficult. Dr. Utley states that the "heart" "...was used in its OT sense of the entire person."⁴ (cf. James 2:14-26).

"It is not with the HEAD, but with the HEART! It is not merely believing ABOUT Christ, but believing IN Christ — a belief so strong as to publicly and personally confess it even though it brings difficulties and possibly death."⁵

5. "...raised from the dead..." – Christianity stands or falls on the reality of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It was the central truth of every recorded message of the apostles (**Acts 2:31-32; 3:15; 4:10; 5:30; 10:40; 13:30-37**).
 - a. Some wonder why Paul does not mention the cross or the crucifixion in this passage. But when Paul emphasizes the need to believe that God has raised him from the dead, it is not that we believe the resurrection as *opposed* to the cross, but as *encompassing* the work of Jesus on the cross.
 - b. "...you will be saved." – As mentioned last week, the word means; "safety, deliverance, preservation from danger or destruction."⁶

"Because if you acknowledge *and* confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and in your heart believe (adhere to, trust in, and rely on the truth) that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Romans 10:9 – Amplified Bible

6. Why Is The Resurrection Of Jesus Christ so Important?

- a. If He didn't raise from the dead, we are still dead in our sins.

"And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! I Corinthians 15:17.
- b. If Christ did not rise from the dead, then, we being dead in our sins, must pay the penalty for them.

"For the wages of sin is death..." Romans 6:23.

¹Thayer, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*:

²Kenneth S. Wuest, *Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament: For the English Reader*, vol. 2 (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997), 178.

³Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains* (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 375.

⁴Robert James Utley, *The Gospel according to Paul: Romans*, vol. Volume 5, Study Guide Commentary Series (Marshall, Texas: Bible Lessons International, 1998), Ro 10:9.

⁵William C. Neece, *Study Notes on the Book of Romans*, 21.

⁶Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary*, (AMG Publishers; Revised edition, 1993)

c. Christ's Resurrection is the Seal of Proof that He was Who He said He was.

**"...concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David, according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."
Romans 1:3-4; (Also see Matthew 12:38-42; John 2:18-22; Acts 13:33-41).**

"If our Lord said, frequently, with great definiteness and detail, that after He went up to Jerusalem He would be put to death, but on the third day He would rise again from the grave, and this prediction came to pass, then it has always seemed to me that everything else that our Lord ever said must also be true."

Wilbur M. Smith, Theologian.

1) What are some other things He said then?

a) **"I go to prepare a place for you."** – John 14:2

b) **"If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, you will ask what you will..."** – John 15:7.

c) **"And these signs will follow them who believe..."** – Mark 16:17.

d) **"Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, you shall live also."** – John 14:19.

e) **"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."** – John 14:6.

7. **Verse 10** – This connects to **verse 9** and is an explanation of it. It's important to make some kind of strict formula out of this, however. (e.g. Someone who is mute.).

B. Verses 11-13 – God's Righteousness is Universally Available!

1. **Verse 11** – **"For the Scripture says, 'Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.'"** – It's not certain what Old Testament passage Paul is referring to here because there are a few that give this idea. Some possibilities are **Isaiah 28:16; 49:23** and **Psalms 34:22**. Note: **"whoever"** means anyone!

a. Note the return to the word **"believe"**. Remember it's with the **"heart one believes"** (**verse 10**).

b. **"...will not be put to shame."** – Means - **"to shame"; "confound"; "dishonor"** and **"disgrace."**

"The idea of being ashamed of the Lord Jesus is not in the apostle's mind. Rather, he says that the sinner who places his faith in the Lord Jesus will not be defeated, disappointed, suffer a repulse in his life."⁷

"The Scripture says, No man who believes in Him [who adheres to, relies on, and trusts in Him] will [ever] be put to shame or be disappointed." – Romans 10:11 – Amplified Bible

2. **Verse 12** – **"For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him."** - Paul makes it clear that ethnic origin doesn't matter. Notice again the universal aspect seen in the word **"all"**. To **"call upon"** means **"to call on for help."**

"The universal nature of the gospel ("all" used twice in v. 12) cuts two ways: (1) there is no distinction between Jews and Gentiles; all are lost (cf. 3:9, 19, 22-23; 11:32) and (2) there is no distinction between Jews and Gentiles; all can be saved. The gospel removes all human barriers to salvation (cf. Joel 2:28-29; 1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Col. 3:11)."⁸

3. **Verse 13** – **"For 'whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'" – This is a very well known quote from Joel 2:32. Again note the universal aspect in the word "whoever".**

"In Joel YHWH's name was used; Paul in Romans and Peter in Acts 2:21 substituted Jesus' name (also notice John 12:41 and Isa. 6:9-10; Phil. 2:9 and Isa. 45:22-25; Rom. 9:33 and Isa. 8:13-14)"⁹

⁷Kenneth S. Wuest, *Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament: For the English Reader*, vol. 2 (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997), 179.

⁸Robert James Utley, *The Gospel according to Paul: Romans*, vol. Volume 5, Study Guide Commentary Series (Marshall, Texas: Bible Lessons International, 1998), Ro 10:12.

⁹Ibid.