

Romans 10:1-21 "Step by Step"

Step by Step is a verse by verse study through the Bible. With this approach we trust that God, in the person of the Holy Spirit, will emphasize specific points and passages to each person; training us in the Word and teaching us how to live with purpose and identity.

Chapter 9 addressed Divine sovereignty, chapter 10 moves to human responsibility

V1- What a beautiful attitude toward people, even those who often harmed him. Paul's attitude is a result of salvation as we know he used to be aggressively and violently against the gospel.

POINT TO PONDER: *Paul's lifestyle and sacrifice of time and talent confirmed his heart's desire. In essence, Paul 'put feet on his prayers' and sacrificially followed God. Take some time this week privately and ask God to show you what is your "heart's desire and prayer" for those around you and what action of obedience should you take.*

V2,3 This truth is very evident today among Jews and gentiles. Many are willing to put forth effort for the 'righteousness' they approve without submitting to God's righteousness.

V4 Acts 13:39 *"and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses."*

Galatians 3:24 *"Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith"* See Romans 3:28 as well

V5 To be righteous by way of the law you would have to fulfill every aspect perfectly, which is not possible, therefore the law was not given to produce righteousness but rather to reveal unrighteousness. Remember Galatians 3:24 told us the purpose of the law was to lead us to Christ.

V6-8 Quoting Moses from Deuteronomy 30- Moses, at the end of his life is giving instruction and exhortation for 'returning' to God. They had wandered in the wilderness, not receiving what God had placed before them. Now, Moses will hand it over for Joshua to lead them into God's promised land. In Deuteronomy 30 Moses is reminding them that they had received the law which provided for their shortcomings by way of sacrifices. Their part was to choose to believe God that the sacrifices and the law pointed to Jesus who was to come. By faith believing that what the sacrifices covered, Jesus-Messiah would remove!

V9- This verse is the application of verses 4-8. Consider the following points concerning our response to the gospel:

1. It is personal- ...*if you confess...*
 2. It is intelligent- ...*with your mouth...*
 3. It requires surrender- ...*the Lord Jesus...*
 4. It has an action- ...*believe in your heart...*
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V10 We can see here the mouth as a symbol of the conscious acknowledgment of what we believe." It is not as much what you verbalize as much as what you recognize; Jesus is your Lord!

V11 *shame*= Disgrace, dishonor. God never shames His children!

V12,13- The beautiful gift of salvation is rich to whoever would cry out to Him.

V14-17 Our faith is reasonable and our life actions should be reasonable and intelligent as well. When sorting out our individual 'calling' sometimes we want God to speak through a burning bush or something. I believe we can see from the many lives in scripture that God also engages our intelligence as He reveals His heart to us. Our calling is His heart working through us for His glory and for our joy.

V18 Much like Romans 1:19 God, Creator, has proven His presence through His creation! The Jews had heard about the great works of God.

V19-21 The gospel was sent to the gentiles after the Jews rejected Jesus. God will use the response of the gentiles to stir up jealousy within the Jew; the Jew being jealous for the grace that the gentiles have received. This was foretold in the Old testament as we see from the passages referenced.
