

Belief in God is Not Enough! *Romans 10:1-13*

Sermon-in-a-Sentence: Salvation is a free gift from God given to those who _____ and _____ to God's way of salvation.

What must a person do in order to be saved from the consequences of sin and rebellion against God? These include, among other things: 1) the wrath of God; 2) the judgment and condemnation of God; 3) eternity in the Lake of Fire (Hell); 4) bondage to sin; and 5) subjection to the rule and control of Satan.

1 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.

- People who believe in God but not in Jesus Christ, are not _____. (John 14:1, 6; 1 John 5:11-12; Acts 4:12).
- "Because Jesus is the most complete revelation of God, no one can fully know God apart from knowing Jesus; and because God appointed Jesus to bring God and human beings together, no one can come to God by another path." (*The Life Application Commentary Series*)

2 For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge.

- Just being _____ in one's religious beliefs is not enough to get one saved!
- "Human effort, no matter how sincere, can never substitute for the righteousness God offers us by faith. The only way to earn salvation is to be perfect—and that is impossible. We can only hold out our empty hands and receive salvation as a gift." (*Life Application Study Bible, p. 2046*)
- Our zeal for God must be "based on knowledge"; that is, it must be based on what God has revealed in His Word.

3 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. 4 Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

- Being self-righteous is not enough to get one saved!
- Paul's fellow Jews went about seeking to achieve a right standing with God through the _____ of the Mosaic Law.
- Christ alone was able to perfectly fulfill the law and in His fulfillment, He brought it to an end. We are no longer obligated by the demands of the Old Testament Mosaic Law.
- Salvation is a free gift from God given to those who believe and submit to God's way of salvation.
- Romans 1:16-17; Romans 3:21-22, 28.

What must we do in order to be in right standing and have a right relationship with God?

8 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: 9 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.

- 1) We must _____ with our mouth that "Jesus is Lord." (The Person of Christ)
 - 2) We must _____ in our heart that God raised Him from the dead. (The Work of Christ)
- To confess that "Jesus is Lord" is to agree with all that the Scriptures say about Him—who He is (Person) and why He came (Work).
 - "To confess Jesus as Lord includes a heart belief in His deity, incarnation, vicarious atonement and bodily resurrection." (*Dr. Kenneth Wuest, Romans, p. 178*)
 - To confess that "Jesus is Lord" is to profess our belief that He is God in human flesh; it is to affirm His _____.
 - Just like baptism, publicly professing our belief in the Lord Jesus Christ is an outward sign of our inward faith. What we genuinely believe in our heart will show up on our lips!
 - Biblical faith involves our whole being: our mind, our heart and our will.
 - Our mind – we need to know, understand and believe certain historical facts. Our faith needs and has intellectual content. (1 Corinthians 15:3-5)
 - Our heart – we need to set our love on the Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Jhn. 2:15; John 14:15)
 - Our will – Have you *repented* of your sins and *received* Jesus Christ as your Savior? Have you *invited* Him to come into your life and *asked* Him to forgive you of your sins? Have you *submitted* your will and your life to Him as the Lord of your life?

10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. 11 As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

- Isaiah 28:16 – all we must do to receive God's gift of salvation is put our trust in Him.
- Faith (trust, belief) manifests itself in various ways: calling on His name for salvation, baptism, confessing Christ as the Lord of our life, obedience to His commands, love for Him, love for His people, love for His Word, etc.
- We must not confuse or substitute the manifestations of faith for *faith itself*. (Acts 16:30-31)

12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile — the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

- To "call on the name of the Lord" is to put our trust in Jesus Christ for salvation.
- The "name of the Lord" signifies who He is (His Person) and what He did in His death on the cross and His resurrection (His Work).
- To "confess with our mouth" that "Jesus is Lord" is to profess what we believe about His Person.
- And to "believe in our heart" that "God raised him from the dead" is to profess our belief in His finished Work on the cross.