

**Preach the word of Christ**  
**Romans 10:14–21**  
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**Lord's Day, February 18, 2018**

**Big Idea:** Our assignment from God is to preach the gospel to everyone.

## **I. THE PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL (10:8-13)**

- A. Announcement (v. 8)
- B. Assurance (vv. 9-11)
- C. Audience (vv. 12-13)

## **II. THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL (10:14-21)**

### **A. Assignment (vv. 14-15, 17)**

#### **1. Calling requires faith (v. 14a)**

*“Saving faith is not mere intellectual agreement but deep inward trust in Christ at the core of one’s being.” – Thomas Schreiner*

#### ▪ **Saving faith has several elements:**

- (1) A message to believe (Rom. 1:3-4; 10:8-9)
- (2) A person to receive (Jn. 1:11-13)
- (3) An initial and ongoing repentance and faith (Acts 2:37-38)
- (4) A life of obedience (Rom. 1:5-6; 6:16-18; 10:16a)
- (5) Perseverance (Hb. 3:13-14)

*Hebrews 3:13–14* But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

#### **2. Faith requires hearing (v. 14b)**

#### **3. Hearing requires preaching (v. 14c)**

*“preaching”* - Means “to proclaim,” “to announce”

#### **4. Preaching requires sending (v. 15)**

*Isaiah 52:7* How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

#### ▪ **Sequence:**

- (1) Send
- (2) Share/Preach
- (3) Hear
- (4) Believe
- (5) Respond

#### ▪ **Summary:** Faith comes by hearing the word of Christ preached (v. 17)

- **The messenger** - God intends to bring about his purposes in the world through us.

**2 Corinthians 3:5–6** Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, 6 who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

- **The message** – The word of Christ (Rom. 10:8-9; Gal. 1:11-12)
- **The means** – We are sent with Christ authority and power (Rom. 15:18-21; 1 Cor. 2:1-5).  
**Romans 15:18–19a** For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, 19 by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God –

- Preaching apart from the power of the Holy Spirit cannot reach or rescue the lost.

Jesus himself illustrated human lostness by the language of physical disability. By ourselves we are blind to God’s truth and deaf to his voice. Lame, we cannot walk in his ways. Dumb, we can neither sing to him nor speak for him. We are even dead in our trespasses and sins. Moreover; we are the dupes and slaves of demonic forces. Of course, if we think this exaggerated or ‘mythical’ or frankly false, then we shall see no need for supernatural power; we shall consider our own resources adequate. But if human beings are in reality spiritually and morally blind, deaf, dumb, lame and even dead, not to mention the prisoners of Satan, then it is ridiculous in the extreme to suppose that by ourselves and our merely human preaching we can reach or rescue people in such a plight . . . Only Jesus Christ by his Holy Spirit can open blind eyes and deaf ears, make the lame walk and the dumb speak, prick the conscience, enlighten the mind, fire the heart, move the will, give life to the dead and rescue slaves from Satanic bondage. **John Stott**

## **B. Accountability (vv. 16, 18-21)**

### **1. To decline the gospel invitation is to disobey God (v. 16).**

**Isaiah 53:1** Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

### **2. Why did Israel reject the gospel?**

#### **a. Was it because they had not heard the gospel (v. 18)?**

**Psalms 19:4** Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,

#### **b. Was it because they did not understand (vv. 19-21)?**

##### **Two witnesses:**

(1) Moses (v. 19; Deut. 32:21)

**Deuteronomy 32:21** They have made me jealous with what is no god; they have provoked me to anger with their idols. So I will make them jealous with those who are no people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation

(2) Isaiah (vv. 20-21)

**Isaiah 65:1–2** I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, “Here I am, here I am,” to a nation that was not called by my name. 2 I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices;

- **Bottom line:** Israel’s rejection of the gospel was not a lack of those sent, or a lack of understanding. It was obstinate rebellion against God (v. 21; Rom. 10:3)!

**Benediction:** Luke 24:44–59