

ROMANS 10:14-21

THE DAY OF SALVATION

FROM THE VERY FIRST VERSE OF CHAPTER 10 WE CAN QUICKLY SEE WHAT THE FOCUS OF THE ENTIRE CHAPTER IS...

ROMANS 10:1

BROTHERS, MY HEART'S DESIRE AND MY PRAYER TO GOD FOR THEM IS FOR THEIR SALVATION.

I CHOSE THE LEGACY STANDARD TRANSLATION BECAUSE IT IS CLOSEST TO THE ORIGINAL GREEK.

WHILE THIS VERSION DOESN'T SAY ISRAEL OR ISRAELITES WE KNOW FROM CHAPTER 9 THAT PAUL IS REFERRING TO THE NATION OF ISRAEL.

THE REASON I LOVE THE LEGACY STANDARD VERSION IS BECAUSE IT USES THE WORD SALVATION.

MOST TRANSLATIONS SAY THAT THEY MIGHT BE SAVED, WHICH IS THE SAME THING.

BUT THE GREEK WORD USED IS: *sōtērian* WHICH IS WHERE WE GET THE WORD SOTERIOLOGY WHICH IS A FANCY WORD FOR THE DOCTRINE OF SALVATION.

CHAPTER 10 IS ABOUT SALVATION!

SPECIFICALLY, THAT ISRAEL NEEDS SALVATION, BUT ULTIMATELY THEY HAVE REJECTED IT.

PAUL IS GOING TO LAY IT OUT AS SIMPLY AS HE POSSIBLY CAN, WHICH AS WE ALL KNOW ISN'T HIS NORMAL M.O.

BUT BEFORE WE DIG INTO THE TEXT, I HAVE A QUESTION...

IS THE WAY TO SALVATION DIFFERENT FOR THE NATION OF ISRAEL THAN IT IS FOR US?

NO!

SALVATION IS THE SAME FOR EVERYONE.

SO WHILE PAUL IS SPECIFICALLY SPEAKING ABOUT THE NATION OF ISRAEL IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE CAN'T READ IT AND UNDERSTAND IT AS THE WAY SALVATION WORKS FOR EVERYONE.

LAST WEEK PASTOR BO TAUGHT VERSES 1-13 AND IN THOSE VERSES, WE LEARNED THAT ISRAEL WAS GUILTY OF TRYING TO WORK FOR THEIR SALVATION.

THEY WERE TOO FOCUSED ON THE LAW AND HAD LOST SIGHT OF THE ONE WHO GAVE THE LAW.

WHICH WOULD BE THEIR ULTIMATE DOWNFALL.

PAUL IS PLEADING A GOSPEL THAT IS SO SIMPLE, YET THEY REJECTED IT.

MOST OF YOUR BIBLES HAVE A LITTLE TITLE OVER EACH CHAPTER.

AND SOME OF THEM FOR THE FIRST 13 VERSES OF CHAPTER 10 THE TITLE IS "ISRAEL NEEDS THE GOSPEL..."

THOSE LITTLE TITLES ARE NOT IN THE ORIGINAL TRANSLATIONS BUT THEY CAN OFFER INSIGHT INTO THE CONTENT OF THE TEXT.

AND WHILE PAUL IS WRITING SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE ISRAELITES IN THIS SECTION I WOULD SAY "EVERYONE NEEDS THE GOSPEL"

TODAY WE ARE GETTING A WONDERFUL LOOK AT THE PROCESS PAUL DESCRIBES THAT TAKES PLACE WHICH LEADS TO SALVATION.

WE ARE GOING TO SEE THAT WHILE THE NATION OF ISRAEL REJECTED THEIR MESSIAH, (THE VERY ONE THAT CAME TO BRING THEM SALVATION), GOD OFFERED THAT SAME SALVATION TO A PEOPLE THAT WERE NOT A NATION.

TO A PEOPLE THAT HE SAID WERE NOT SEEKING HIM AND DID NOT ASK FOR HIM.

THIS TELLS US THAT ISRAEL WAS SEEKING GOD BUT IT WAS BY THEIR OWN MEANS, NOT THE WAY GOD PROVIDED THEM.

IT IS ALSO ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE OF THE FACT THAT GOD FINDS US, AND MANIFESTS HIMSELF IN OUR LIVES WHEN HAVEN'T ASKED FOR HIM.

SO, WITH ALL THAT IN MIND WE ARE GOING TO BACK UP JUST A LITTLE BIT TO VERSE 10 TO HELP OFFER SOME CONTEXT FOR WHAT WE WILL BE STUDYING TODAY.

ROMANS 10:10

10 FOR WITH THE HEART A PERSON BELIEVES, ^[c]LEADING TO RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND WITH THE MOUTH HE CONFESSES, ^[b]LEADING TO SALVATION. ¹¹ FOR THE SCRIPTURE SAYS, "WHOEVER BELIEVES UPON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME."

WE MUST TRUST WITH OUR HEARTS THAT JESUS IS THE MESSIAH.

AND THAT CAN ONLY HAPPEN IF GOD GIVES YOU A NEW HEART, A HEART THAT IS TENDER TOWARDS THE THINGS NECESSARY FOR SALVATION.

WE CONFESS WITH OUR MOUTH...

WE OFTEN OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT CONFESSION IS TWOFOLD.

WE CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD, THAT COMES FROM THE FAITH THAT IS GIVEN TO US BY GOD.

FAITH AND CONFESSION LEAD TO THE CONFESSION OF OUR SINS AND REPENTANCE.

SO, WE CONFESS JESUS AS LORD AS WELL AS CONFESS OUR SINS.

THESE THINGS LEAD TO SALVATION.

SALVATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE PLAN, AND THAT PLAN NEVER EXCLUDED THE GENTILES.

ROMANS 10:11

11 FOR THE SCRIPTURE SAYS, "WHOEVER BELIEVES UPON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME."

PAUL QUOTES

ISAIAH 28:16

***16 THEREFORE THUS SAYS LORD YAHWEH,
"BEHOLD, I AM LAYING IN ZION A STONE, A TESTED STONE,
A COSTLY CORNERSTONE FOR THE FOUNDATION, [M] FIRMLY
PLACED.
HE WHO BELIEVES IN IT WILL NOT BE [N] DISTURBED.***

WHY DOES PAUL CONTINUE TO REFER BACK TO THE OLD TESTAMENT?

A FEW REASONS, ONE BEING THAT THIS IS WHAT THE JEWISH PEOPLE KNEW WAS THE WORD OF GOD.

HE ALSO USES IT TO SHOW THE READERS THAT GODS PLAN FOR SALVATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE SAME.

THE COMMON THREAD THAT RUNS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE BIBLE IS JESUS.

THE CORNERSTONE THAT GOD PLACED IN JERUSALEM WAS JESUS.

THE ONE THAT YOU MUST TRUST IN, IN ORDER TO BE SAVED.

ROMANS 10:12

12 FOR THERE IS NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN JEW AND GREEK, FOR THE SAME LORD IS LORD OF ALL, ABOUNDING IN RICHES FOR ALL WHO CALL ON HIM,

JUST IN CASE ANYONE WAS NOT CLEAR PAUL OFFERS AN EXPLANATION THAT CANNOT BE TAKEN ANY OTHER WAY THAN WHAT HE SAYS.

THESE WORDS CAN'T BE TWISTED TO MEAN ANYTHING OTHER THAN EXACTLY WHAT THEY SAY.

THE SAME LORD IS LORD OF ALL, I THINK THIS ALSO MEANS THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE TRUE GOD.

AND WHAT ARE THE ABOUNDING RICHES FOR ALL THAT CALL UPON HIM?

ROMANS 10:13

13 FOR "WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

THE USE OF THE WORD "FOR" TO START THIS NEXT VERSE TELLS US HE IS REFERRING TO WHAT HE HAD JUST SAID.

AND THE RICHES THAT WE GET WHEN WE CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD ARE THE RICHES OF SALVATION.

THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT EVER.

MATTHEW 13:44

44 "THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE A TREASURE HIDDEN IN THE FIELD, WHICH A MAN FOUND AND HID AGAIN; AND FROM JOY OVER IT HE GOES AND SELLS ALL THAT HE HAS AND BUYS THAT FIELD."

HAVE YOU DISCOVERED THAT TREASURE?

THE ONE THING THAT YOU WOULD QUICKLY AND FREELY GIVE UP EVERYTHING ELSE FOR?

IF NOT, PAUL HAS GIVEN YOU ONE SENTENCE THAT TELLS YOU EXACTLY HOW TO ACQUIRE THOSE RICHES...

CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD!

AND THIS ISN'T JUST SOME ARBITRARY REQUEST TO ANY DEITY.

THIS IS THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD AND HE IS THE ONLY WAY TO INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

IF YOU BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART AND CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH THAT HE IS LORD YOU WILL BE SAVED!

WHICH BRINGS US TO THE TEXT FOR TODAY.

ROMANS 10:14, 15A

14 HOW THEN WILL THEY CALL ON HIM IN WHOM THEY HAVE NOT BELIEVED? HOW WILL THEY BELIEVE IN HIM WHOM THEY HAVE NOT HEARD? AND HOW WILL THEY HEAR WITHOUT A PREACHER? 15 AND HOW WILL THEY PREACH UNLESS THEY ARE SENT?

IT IS VERY INTERESTING HOW PAUL STRUCTURES THIS SECTION.

IT IS IN REVERSE ORDER BY WHICH SALVATION TAKES PLACE, SO WE HAVE TO LOOK AT IT FROM THE END TO SEE THE BEGINNING.

HOW WILL THEY PREACH UNLESS THEY ARE SENT?

DOES THIS MEAN PREACHERS ARE THE CATALYST BY WHICH PEOPLE ARE SAVED?

OF COURSE NOT, THE REVEALING OF THE WORD OF GOD IS WHAT INITIATES THAT PROCESS.

BUT WE HAVE TO REMEMBER WE ARE LOOKING BACK TO A TIME IN HISTORY BEFORE THE NEW TESTAMENT HAD BEEN COMPLETED.

SO, IN ORDER FOR PEOPLE TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD IT MUST BE DELIVERED BY A PREACHER OR A MESSENGER OF GOD.

IN ORDER FOR MAN TO GO OUT, HE HAD TO BE SENT BY GOD HIMSELF.

ALL OF THE APOSTLES WERE SELECTED BY GOD THE FATHER, HE SELECTED THEM AND BROUGHT THEM TO JESUS AND THE LEADERS OF THE CHURCH THAT CAME AFTER THEM WERE SELECTED BY THE APOSTLES (THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT).

SO, A PREACHER IN THAT TIME WOULD HAVE BEEN A MAN THAT HAD BEEN SENT BY GOD HIMSELF.

YOU MAY BE THINKING WELL WHAT ABOUT THE OLD TESTAMENT THEY COULD READ THAT FOR THEMSELVES RIGHT?

WELL, IT IS BELIEVED THAT ONLY ABOUT 10% OF PEOPLE COULD READ DURING THIS TIME.

NOT TO MENTION THAT THERE WERE VERY FEW COPIES OF THE ENTIRE OLD TESTAMENT.

THOSE COPIES WOULD ONLY HAVE BEEN FOUND IN THE TEMPLE.

THE SYNAGOGUES MAY HAVE HAD A FEW DIFFERENT BOOKS BUT EVEN THOSE WOULD HAVE BEEN READ ALOUD.

SO, IN THAT TIME FRAME; TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD, THEY ABSOLUTELY NEEDED A PREACHER.

THINGS ARE LITTLE DIFFERENT TODAY ARE THEY NOT?

THERE ARE ESTIMATED TO BE BETWEEN 5-7 BILLION BIBLES IN CIRCULATION.

THE OLD TESTAMENT IN OVER 750 LANGUAGES AND THE NEW TESTAMENT IN OVER 3,000 LANGUAGES.

WITH AN ESTIMATED 8 BILLION PEOPLE ON THE PLANET, WE HAVE ALMOST ENOUGH FOR EVERY PERSON.

WHILE THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE CAN NOW READ THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY DON'T NEED A PREACHER TO EXPLAIN THE WORD OF GOD.

THIS DOESN'T TAKE AWAY FROM THE FACT THAT WE STILL NEED TO BE READING OUR BIBLES ON OUR OWN.

WHEN WE SPEND TIME IN GOD'S WORD IT CHANGES OUR LIFE, AND UNDOUBTEDLY WHEN WE SPEND ENOUGH TIME IN HIS WORD, WE WILL COME ACROSS THINGS THAT NEED EXPLANATION AND THAT IS ANOTHER REASON PASTORS ARE SO IMPORTANT.

SO, THE FIRST STEP IS, PREACHERS ARE SENT BY GOD TO PROCLAIM THE SAVING GOSPEL.

THOSE PREACHERS PROCLAIM THE TRUTH OF THE WORD OF GOD AND PEOPLE HEAR, AND THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD PEOPLE'S EYES ARE OPENED TO TRUTH.

IN THAT PROCESS OF HEARING GODS WORD, HE CALLS PEOPLE UNTO HIMSELF THROUGH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.

WHEN THAT HAPPENS, THEY BELIEVE WHAT GOD HAS SAID.

THEN THE FINAL STEP TAKES PLACE, THEY CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS.

SO, TO SUM IT UP...

PREACHERS ARE SENT, THE WORD IS HEARD, PEOPLE BELIEVE, THEY CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD AND THEN THEY ARE SAVED.

NOW THAT BRINGS US TO THE SECOND HALF OF VERSE 15

ROMANS 10:15B

JUST AS IT IS WRITTEN, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"

BELIEVE IT OR NOT I FOUND THIS TO BE THE MOST FASCINATING PART OF THIS ENTIRE SECTION OF SCRIPTURE.

I READ CHAPTER 10 COUNTLESS TIMES AND MY ATTENTION JUST KEPT GETTING DRAWN BACK TO THIS VERSE.

FIRST PAUL SAYS "AS IT IS WRITTEN"

SO, WE NEED SEE TO WHERE THAT IS

ISAIAH 52:3-7

3 FOR THUS SAYS YAHWEH, "YOU WERE SOLD FOR NOTHING, AND YOU WILL BE REDEEMED WITHOUT MONEY." 4 FOR THUS SAYS LORD YAHWEH, "MY PEOPLE WENT DOWN AT THE FIRST INTO EGYPT TO SOJOURN THERE; THEN THE ASSYRIAN OPPRESSED THEM WITHOUT CAUSE. 5 SO NOW, WHAT DO I HAVE HERE," DECLARES YAHWEH, "SINCE MY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TAKEN AWAY FOR NOTHING?" YAHWEH DECLARES, "THOSE WHO RULE OVER THEM HOWL, AND MY NAME IS CONTINUALLY BLASPHEMED ALL DAY LONG. 6 THEREFORE MY PEOPLE SHALL KNOW MY NAME; THEREFORE IN THAT DAY I AM THE ONE WHO IS SPEAKING, 'HERE I AM.'" I WANT YOU GUYS TO HANG ON TO THAT "HERE I AM" STATEMENT, BECAUSE IT SHOWS UP AGAIN LATER.

***7 HOW LOVELY ON THE MOUNTAINS
ARE THE FEET OF HIM WHO PROCLAIMS GOOD NEWS,
WHO [A] ANNOUNCES [B] PEACE
AND PROCLAIMS GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS,
WHO [C] ANNOUNCES SALVATION,
AND SAYS TO ZION, "YOUR GOD [D] REIGNS!"***

WHEN ISAIAH WRITES, HE IS SPEAKING SPECIFICALLY OF THE TIME COME IN THE FUTURE IN WHICH ISRAEL WILL RETURN TO THE LORD AND WILL WORSHIP CHRIST.

THIS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM WHEN JESUS PHYSICALLY REIGNS FROM JERUSALEM AS KING OF THE WORLD.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY THAT A TRUE THEOCRACY EXISTS.

WHICH IS A PURE FORM OF GOVERNMENT OVERSEEN AND CARRIED OUT BY GOD HIMSELF.

WHEN PAUL MAKES THE STATEMENT "***HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!***"

HE EXPANDS ON WHAT ISAIAH HAS SAID TO INCLUDE THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL OR GOOD NEWS OF GOD FROM THE TIME OF JESUS FORWARD.

(SIDE NOTE)

DURING THE 7 YEARS OF TRIBULATION THERE WILL BE 288,000 BEAUTIFUL FEET ATTACHED TO THE 144,000 JEWISH EVANGELIST WHO WILL BE PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL DURING THE MOST DIFFICULT TIME IN HISTORY.

BUT IN ALL OF THIS MY ATTENTION WAS DRAWN TO THE STATEMENT “HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET”

AND HERE’S WHY...

WE HAVE TO PUT THIS CONTEXT.

DURING ISAIAH’S TIME AND THE TIME OF PAUL FEET WERE CONSIDERED TO MOST FILTHY PART OF THE BODY. AND THAT WAS FOR A GOOD REASON, THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE WALKED EVERYWHERE THEY WENT.

ROADS WERE GENERALLY DIRT OR GRAVEL.

THE PRIMARY MODE OF TRANSPORTATION WOULD’VE BEEN HORSES, DONKEYS AND CAMELS.

NOW WE ALL KNOW HOW THOSE TYPES OF ANIMALS OPERATE.

WHEN IT COMES TIME FOR THEM TO USE THE BATHROOM, THEY DON’T GO FIND THE CLOSEST BUSH OR TREE...

THEY GO WHEREVER THEY ARE AT THAT MOMENT.

THIS MEANS THAT VERY OFTEN ROADS WERE LITTERED WITH ANIMAL WASTE.

SO, WE HAVE PEOPLE WALKING, NO SOCKS, OPEN SHOES IN THESE CONDITIONS.

THAT’S PRETTY GROSS.

DESPITE ALL THAT, THESE TWO GREAT MEN OF GOD SAY SOMETHING SO STRANGE CONSIDERING WHAT WE JUST DISCUSSED.

DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME?

HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING THE GOSPEL...

WHY WOULD THEY SAY IT THIS WAY?

WHY NOT SAY HOW BEAUTIFUL IS THE MESSAGE OR THE MESSENGER?

I THINK THEY WERE DRIVING HOME THE POINT OF JUST HOW WONDERFUL THE GOSPEL OF GOD IS!

IT IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND WONDERFUL THING IN THE ENTIRE WORLD.

SO BEAUTIFUL AND WONDERFUL THAT IT FAR OUTWEIGHED THE DIRTY FEET.

THIS POWERFUL TRUTH MADE EVEN THE DIRTIEST FEET IN THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL BECAUSE THE MESSAGE THAT THOSE FEET BROUGHT WAS PERFECT AND HOLY.

BECAUSE IT WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE EVER TO BE DELIVERED.

SOMETHING ELSE THAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION ABOUT THIS STATEMENT IMMEDIATELY TOOK ME TO THE NIGHT BEFORE JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED.

JOHN 13:3-5

³ JESUS, KNOWING THAT THE FATHER HAD GIVEN ALL THINGS INTO HIS HANDS, AND THAT HE HAD COME FORTH FROM GOD AND WAS GOING BACK TO GOD, ⁴ *GOT UP FROM SUPPER, AND *LAID ASIDE HIS GARMENTS; AND TAKING A TOWEL, HE TIED IT AROUND HIMSELF. ⁵ THEN HE *POURED WATER INTO THE WASHBASIN, AND BEGAN TO WASH THE DISCIPLES' FEET AND TO WIPE THEM WITH THE TOWEL WHICH HE HAD TIED AROUND HIMSELF.

AS I THINK ABOUT WHAT PAUL AND ISAIAH HAD SAID I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT THIS MOMENT.

JESUS JUST HOURS AWAY FROM THE CROSS CHOSE TO WASH THE FEET OF HIS DISCIPLES INCLUDING JUDAS.

HE WAS PREPARING THEM FOR SOMETHING THAT THEY COULDN'T COMPREHEND.

HE WASHED THE FEET OF THE VERY MEN THAT WOULD BRING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD.

NOW THAT'S POWERFUL, THAT SHOWS US THE HEART OF OUR KING.

KNOWING THAT HE WOULD BE BETRAYED AND ABANDONED BY THESE MEN.

HE STILL PREPARED THEM FOR WHAT LIE AHEAD IN A WAY THAT THEY WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND UNTIL MUCH LATER.

ROMANS 10:16

16 BUT THEY HAVE NOT ALL OBEYED THE GOSPEL. FOR ISAIAH SAYS, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?"

THE FIRST HALF OF THIS VERSE TELLS US THAT THERE IS A COMMAND THAT ACCOMPANIES THE GRACIOUS NEWS OF THE GOSPEL.

WHICH WE KNOW IS TO BELIEVE AND REPENT.

SO, WE HAVE THE SECOND HALF.

WHICH SAYS "FOR ISAIAH SAYS, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?"

ANYTIME WE SEE A REFERENCE TO THE OLD TESTAMENT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE GO TO THAT SECTION.

THAT IS WHAT PROVIDES US WITH THE CONTEXT NECESSARY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT PAUL IS TRYING TO SAY.

ISAIAH 53:1-5

WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?

AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?

**² FOR HE SHALL GROW UP BEFORE HIM AS A TENDER PLANT,
AND AS A ROOT OUT OF DRY GROUND.**

HE HAS NO ^[A]FORM OR ^[B]COMELINESS;

AND WHEN WE SEE HIM,

THERE IS NO ^[C]BEAUTY THAT WE SHOULD DESIRE HIM.

³ HE IS DESPISED AND ^[D]REJECTED BY MEN,

A MAN OF ^[E]SORROWS AND ACQUAINTED WITH ^[F]GRIEF.

AND WE HID, AS IT WERE, OUR FACES FROM HIM;

HE WAS DESPISED, AND WE DID NOT ESTEEM HIM.

⁴ SURELY HE HAS BORNE OUR ^[G]GRIEFS

AND CARRIED OUR ^[H]SORROWS;

YET WE ^[I]ESTEEMED HIM STRICKEN,

^[J]SMITTEN BY GOD, AND AFFLICTED.

⁵ BUT HE WAS WOUNDED ^[K]FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS,

HE WAS ^[L]BRUISED FOR OUR INIQUITIES;

THE CHASTISEMENT FOR OUR PEACE WAS UPON HIM,

AND BY HIS STRIPES ^[M]WE ARE HEALED.

VERSE 5 IS THE GOOD NEWS WHICH THE NATION OF ISRAEL REJECTED.

PAUL KNEW EXACTLY WHAT ISAIAH 53 MEANT.

THE MESSIAH THAT WOULD BEAR THE SINS OF THE WORLD SO THAT THROUGH HIM SALVATION WAS MADE POSSIBLE.

ROMANS 10:17

¹⁷ SO THEN FAITH COMES BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD.

THE FREE GIFT OF FAITH COMES THROUGH HEARING THE WORD OF GOD.

IT IS THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD WORKING IN HARMONY WITH THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT THAT PEOPLE ARE SAVED.

THE BIBLE ISN'T JUST SOME BOOK, IT IS THE ONLY BOOK IN THE WORLD THAT WAS WRITTEN BY GOD HIMSELF.

HE HAS PROTECTED IT AND PRESERVED IT THROUGHOUT MILLENNIA SO THAT WE MAY COME TO KNOW HIM.

I HEAR THE SAME ARGUMENTS ALL THE TIME.

IT'S BEEN TRANSLATED TOO MANY TIMES.

THE BIBLE IS FALLIBLE BECAUSE IT WAS WRITTEN BY MAN.

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT GOD ACTUALLY WROTE THE BIBLE?

WELL FOR STARTERS ITS COMPILED OF 66 BOOKS WRITTEN BY OVER 40 DIFFERENT MEN, ON THREE DIFFERENT CONTINENTS OVER THE COURSE OF 1500 YEARS AND THERE IS NOT A SINGLE CONTRADICTION.

ONLY GOD COULD PULL THAT OFF.

NOT TO MENTION THE PRECISION OF WHICH IT HAS BEEN PRESERVED.

WHAT WE HAVE TODAY IS THE RESULT OF MEN OF GOD THAT METICULOUSLY TRANSLATED IT INTO THOUSANDS OF DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.

ONE THING WE DO RUN INTO IS THAT SOME THINGS DON'T PERFECTLY TRANSLATE FROM ONE LANGUE TO ANOTHER SO THE MEN THAT WERE TRANSLATING IT DID THE BEST THEY COULD.

THAT'S WHY WE ALWAYS GO BACK AND LOOK AT THE GREEK SO WE CAN SEE WHICH TRANSLATION BEST CAPTURES WHAT WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN.

I WILL ALSO ADD, NONE OF THESE TRANSLATION ISSUES CHANGE THE MESSAGE.

WHICH IS WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT.

THE PRESERVATION OF THE GOSPEL MESSAGE HAS BEEN THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF EVERYONE THAT HAS EVER TRANSLATED THE BIBLE.

PAUL CONTINUES IN VERSE 18 EXPRESSING HIS FRUSTRATION WITH ISRAEL AND THEIR REJECTION OF THE TRUTH.

HE WILL QUOTE MOSES, ISAIAH AND EVEN KING DAVID 9 TIMES IN CHAPTER 10.

ANDS WHY DOES HE DO THIS?

HE IS USING WHAT THEY KNOW AND BELIEVE AS THE WORD OF GOD TO SHOW THEM THAT THEY ARE IN ERROR.

THEIR REJECTION OF JESUS IS A REJECTION OF THE MESSIAH FORETOLD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

BY REJECTING JESUS THEY HAVE REJECTED THE VERY GOSPEL OF GOD.

ROMANS 10:18

***18 BUT I SAY, HAVE THEY NOT HEARD? YES INDEED:
“THEIR SOUND HAS GONE OUT TO ALL THE EARTH,
AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD.”***

PAUL IS SAYING THEY HAVE NO EXCUSE, THEY CAN'T SAY WE DIDN'T KNOW BECAUSE NO ONE EVER TOLD US.

HE IS REFERENCING WHAT KING DAVID SAID IN PSALM 19

PSALM 19:1-4

***THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD;
AND THE FIRMAMENT^[A] SHOWS ^[B]HIS HANDIWORK.
² DAY UNTO DAY UTTERS SPEECH,
AND NIGHT UNTO NIGHT REVEALS KNOWLEDGE.
³ THERE IS NO SPEECH NOR LANGUAGE
WHERE THEIR VOICE IS NOT HEARD.
⁴ THEIR ^[C]LINE HAS GONE OUT THROUGH ALL THE EARTH,
AND THEIR WORDS TO THE END OF THE WORLD.
IN THEM HE HAS SET A ^[D]TABERNACLE FOR THE SUN,***

THE UNIVERSE IS CONSTANTLY AND CONSISTENTLY PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF GOD AND HIS LOVING KINDNESS TOWARDS US.

BECAUSE OF THIS, GENERAL REVELATION CANNOT CONVERT SINNERS BUT IT DOES MAKE THEM ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR SINS.

WHICH PAUL COVERS IN DETAIL IN ROMANS CHAPTER 1

SALVATION ULTIMATELY COMES ONLY THROUGH SPECIAL REVELATION...

WHICH IS WHAT PAUL WAS TALKING ABOUT EARLIER.

THAT SPECIAL REVELATION COMES FROM HEARING THE WORD OF GOD AS THE SPIRIT OF GOD REVEALS IT TO US INDIVIDUALLY.

ROMANS 10:19

19 BUT I SAY, DID ISRAEL NOT KNOW? FIRST MOSES SAYS: "I WILL PROVOKE YOU TO JEALOUSY BY THOSE WHO ARE NOT A NATION, I WILL MOVE YOU TO ANGER BY A FOOLISH NATION."

IT'S AS IF PAUL HIMSELF IS IN UTTER DISBELIEF THAT THE REST OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE CAN'T CLEARLY SEE WHAT IS GOING ON.

IT'S LIKE HE'S SAYING, "HOW CAN YOU GUYS NOT SEE THIS?"

MOSES HIMSELF WARNED ISRAEL DURING HIS TIME THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN AND IT DID!

CAN YOU NOT LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES MADE BY OUR ANCESTORS!

DEUTERONOMY 32:19-21

"AND WHEN THE LORD SAW IT, HE SPURNED THEM, BECAUSE OF THE PROVOCATION OF HIS SONS AND HIS DAUGHTERS.

20 AND HE SAID: 'I WILL HIDE MY FACE FROM THEM, I WILL SEE WHAT THEIR END WILL BE, FOR THEY ARE A PERVERSE GENERATION, CHILDREN IN WHOM IS NO FAITH.

***21 THEY HAVE PROVOKED ME TO JEALOUSY BY WHAT IS NOT GOD;
THEY HAVE MOVED ME TO ANGER BY THEIR ^{LE}FOOLISH IDOLS.
BUT I WILL PROVOKE THEM TO JEALOUSY BY THOSE WHO ARE NOT
A NATION;
I WILL MOVE THEM TO ANGER BY A FOOLISH NATION.***

**GOD HAD PROTECTED AND PROVIDED FOR THE NATION OF ISRAEL
WHEN THEY CAME OUT OF EGYPT.**

**AND INSTEAD OF BEING HUMBLE AND GRATEFUL THEY BECAME
PROUD AND ARROGANT.**

**THEY AGAIN FELL INTO IDOL WORSHIP; THEY ADOPTED THE FALSE
GODS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE AREAS THEY WERE IN.**

**ALL THE WHILE REJECTING THE ONE TRUE GOD THAT HAD PAVED
THE WAY FOR THEM.**

**AND MIGHT I ADD HE WAS CONSTANTLY WARNING THEM AGAINST
THE VERY THINGS THEY FELL VICTIM TO.**

HE WOULD BRING JUDGMENT AND PUNISHMENT AGAINST THEM;

**THEY WOULD TURN BACK TO HIM FOR A WHILE AND THEN FALL
VICTIM TO THE SAME OLD SINS.**

GOD IS PATIENT BUT HIS PATIENCE DOES HAVE A LIMIT.

HE WILL WARN US JUST LIKE HE DID THE NATION OF ISRAEL.

HE WILL DISCIPLINE US JUST LIKE HE DID THEM.

**BUT THERE COMES A POINT WHEN HE DELIVERS YOU OVER TO YOUR
SIN, AND YOU WILL FACE THE WRATH OF ABANDONMENT.**

**WHICH MEANS HE WILL NO LONGER PROTECT YOU FROM YOURSELF
AND YOUR SINS.**

WHEN YOU ARE TURNED OVER ONE OF TWO THINGS WILL HAPPEN.

YOU WILL BECOME SO MISERABLE THAT YOU WILL REPENT AND SEEK TO BE RECONCILED TO GOD.

OR YOU WILL REAP WHAT YOU HAVE SOWN.

THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, IF YOU DO NOT REPENT YOU WILL SELF-DESTRUCT.

THIS IS JUST ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE FACT THAT WITHOUT THE INTERVENTION OF GOD IN OUR LIVES WE NO HOPE WHATSOEVER.

ROMANS 10:19

19 BUT I SAY, DID ISRAEL NOT KNOW? FIRST MOSES SAYS: "I WILL PROVOKE YOU TO JEALOUSY BY THOSE WHO ARE NOT A NATION, I WILL MOVE YOU TO ANGER BY A FOOLISH NATION."

PAUL USES THIS SECTION FROM DEUTERONOMY BECAUSE THE EXACT SAME PRINCIPLE APPLIED TO THE NATION OF ISRAEL DURING THIS TIME.

THEY AGAIN WERE REJECTING GOD AND HIS MESSAGE.

SO THE LORD WOULD USE A PEOPLE THAT WERE NOT A NATION TO BRING THEM JEALOUSY.

THAT WOULD BE THE GENTILES.

LUKE 21:24

24 AND THEY WILL FALL BY THE EDGE OF THE SWORD, AND WILL BE LED CAPTIVE INTO ALL THE NATIONS, AND JERUSALEM WILL BE TRAMPLED UNDERFOOT BY THE GENTILES UNTIL THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES ARE FULFILLED.

THE TIME OF GENTILES THAT JESUS IS REFERRING TO STARTED DURING ISRAEL'S CAPTIVITY BY BABYLON IN 586 B.C. AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE END OF THE TRIBULATION.

JUST THINK ABOUT ALL OF THE PERSECUTION THAT THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE ENCOUNTERED DURING THAT TIME FRAME.

THE TEMPLE DESTROYED MULTIPLE TIMES.

IN 70 AD THE TEMPLE WAS DESTROYED AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD UNTIL 1948 WHEN THEY BECAME A NATION AGAIN.

TO THIS VERY DAY ISRAEL IS STILL UNDER CONSTANT ATTACK.

WE CAN LOOK BACK THROUGH HISTORY AND SEE THAT EXACTLY WHAT PAUL WROTE UNDER THE INSPIRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS 100% ACCURATE.

WHICH RINGS TRUE OF ALL SCRIPTURE, AS WE CONTINUE TO SEE IN:

ROMANS 10:20

20 BUT ISAIAH IS VERY BOLD AND SAYS:

***“I WAS FOUND BY THOSE WHO DID NOT SEEK ME;
I WAS MADE MANIFEST TO THOSE WHO DID NOT ASK FOR ME.”***

WHAT PAUL IS QUOTING COMES FROM

ISAIAH 65:1

***“I WAS SOUGHT BY THOSE WHO DID NOT ASK FOR ME;
I WAS 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.***

ISRAEL MAY HAVE SOUGHT THE LORD BUT IT WAS SUPERFICIAL, IT WAS ALL CEREMONY AND SHOW.

THIS VERSE SPEAKS VOLUMES TO JUST HOW LOVING GOD IS.

THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT THESE PEOPLE JUST SO HAPPEN TO STUMBLE ACROSS GOD BY ACCIDENT.

IT SHOWS US THAT HE REVEALED HIMSELF TO THEM.

HE CALLED OUT TO THEM SAYING HERE I AM!

THIS IS JUST ANOTHER VERSE THAT SCREAMS TO THE FACT HE IS THE ONE THAT INITIATES OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.

WHEN YOU HEAR THE PHRASE “HERE I AM” WHAT POPS INTO YOUR HEAD?

I IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT OF A SMALL CHILD PLAYING HIDE AND SEEK.

AS WE PRETEND NOT TO BE ABLE TO SEE THEIR LITTLE FEET BENEATH THE CURTAIN SHOUTING TO THEM “WHERE ARE YOU”

THEY POP OUT FULL OF EXCITEMENT AND SHOUT “HERE I AM DADDY”

ONLY WHEN GOD SAYS THIS IT MEANS SOMETHING VERY DIFFERENT.

IMAGINE YOURSELF AS THE CHILD, YOU HAVE NO FATHER, NO ONE TO PROTECT YOU OR PROVIDE YOU WITH THE THINGS YOU NEED THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR SURVIVAL.

YOU ARE ALONE AND LOST BUT YOU AREN'T SEARCHING FOR A FATHER BECAUSE YOU'VE NEVER HAD ONE.

YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING YOU CAN THINK OF THAT MAY FILL THAT VOID.

AS YOU SEARCH YOU BECOME BATTERED AND BRUISED BY LIFE, HOPELESSLY WANDERING LIKE A SHIP LOST AT SEA.

THEN ONE DAY YOU HEAR THE VOICE OF A LOVING FATHER SHOUTING TO YOU “HERE I AM, HERE I AM”

YOU DIDN'T KNOW UNTIL YOU HEARD THOSE WORDS BUT HE WAS EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEEDED.

HE WAS THERE TO RESCUE YOU, HE WAS THERE TO SAVE YOU.

HE WAS THERE TO INVITE YOU INTO HIS FAMILY.

THE CHURCH FOR TOO LONG HAS GOTTEN THE IDEA OF INVITATION BACKWARDS...

THIS VERSE CLEARLY SHOWS THAT.

THIS IS THE INVITATION FROM GOD TO PEOPLE THAT WEREN'T LOOKING FOR HIM, FOR A PEOPLE THAT WERE NOT A NATION.

THIS IS GODS INVITATION TO SALVATION.

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO EACH ONE OF US ON A VERY INDIVIDUAL AND PERSONAL LEVEL.

BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE HE IS ONE THAT CHOSE ISRAEL TO BE HIS PEOPLE.

HE CHOSE THEM AND GAVE THEM HIS LAW, HE ENTRUSTED THAT LAW TO MOSES TO IMPART ON THE NATION OF ISRAEL.

HE IS THE ONE THAT SAID IN:

EXODUS 6:7

THEN I WILL TAKE YOU FOR MY PEOPLE, AND I WILL BE YOUR GOD; AND YOU SHALL KNOW THAT I AM YAHWEH YOUR GOD, WHO BROUGHT YOU OUT FROM UNDER THE HARD LABORS OF THE EGYPTIANS.

AND JUST LIKE HE CHOSE ISRAEL TO BE HIS PEOPLE HE CHOOSES EVERYONE THAT SALVATION IS OFFERED TO.

PAUL ENDS CHAPTER 10 WITH ONE MORE VERSE FROM ISAIAH...

ROMANS 10:21

21 BUT TO ISRAEL HE SAYS:

“ALL DAY LONG I HAVE STRETCHED OUT MY HANDS TO A DISOBEDIENT AND CONTRARY PEOPLE.”

THIS ENDING SPEAKS TO THE FACT THAT THE NATION OF ISRAEL AS WHOLE REJECTED GOD AND HIS PLAN FOR THEM.

NOW IN CHAPTER 11 OF ROMANS WE WILL SEE THAT GOD DID SPARE A REMNANT OF ISRAEL.

PAUL HIMSELF PROCLAIMING THAT IN WORD AND ACTION, SEEING AS HE HIMSELF WAS AN ISRAELITE.

THIS OUTSTRETCHING OF GOD'S HANDS WAS HIM EXTENDING GRACE TOWARDS A REBELLIOUS PEOPLE.

THIS WASN'T SPEAKING OF OUTSTRETCHED HANDS OF JUDGMENT ALTHOUGH THEIR CONTINUAL REJECTION OF GODS GRACIOUS OUTSTRETCHED HANDS WOULD ULTIMATELY RESULT IN HIS HANDS BEING STRETCHED OUT IN JUDGEMENT.

IF YOU WANT TO SEE GOD'S CONDEMNATION OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL AFTER THE OUTSTRETCHING OF HIS HANDS TOWARDS THEM I URGE TO GO READ ISAIAH CHAPTER 65.

NOW WE HAVE COVERED A LOT IN JUST SIX SHORT VERSES SO I WANT TO SUM IT ALL UP SO THAT WE DON'T LOSE THE POINT PAUL IS TRYING TO MAKE.

WE SAW IN VERSE 13 THAT WHOEVER CALLS UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.

SO PAUL GOES INTO DETAIL EXPLAINING WHAT HAPPENS PRIOR TO US CALLING ON THE NAME OF THE LORD.

THEN HE SPEAKS SPECIFICALLY OF ISRAELS REJECTION OF THE GOSPEL MESSAGE OF JESUS.

HE GOES ON TO QUOTE MOSES AND ISAIAH TO OFFER SUPPORT FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT TO THE TRUTH HE IS CONVEYING TO HIS READERS.

ENDING WITH AN UNDENIABLE PROCLAMATION THAT DESPITE GODS PATIENCE AND KINDNESS TOWARDS ISRAEL THEY STILL TURNED FROM HIM AND REJECTED SALVATION.

BUT WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN FOR US?

I STARTED THIS MORNING WITH A QUESTION THAT I'D LIKE TO CIRCLE BACK TO....

IS SALVATION DIFFERENT FOR THE NATION OF ISRAEL THAN IT IS FOR EVERYONE ELSE?

AND THE ANSWER IS A RESOUNDING NO.

SO WHEN PAUL LAYS OUT THE PROCESS BY WHICH SALVATION TAKES PLACE IT WORKS THE SAME FOR US TODAY.

THE PREACHER HAS BEEN SENT, YOU ARE HERE TODAY LISTENING TO A SERMON PROCLAIMING THE SAVING GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

BELIEVE IN JESUS AND REPENT OF YOUR SINS.

SO NOW THE BALL IS IN YOUR COURT...

DO YOU BELIEVE?

ARE YOU READY AND WILLING TO DECLARE JESUS CHRIST AS LORD AND KING?

IF SO THEN THE TIME HAS COME TO CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD.

CRY OUT TO GOD.

CONFESS YOUR SINS, CONFESS JESUS AS LORD.

LET GO OF YOUR PAST FAILURES AND MISTAKES.

BE SENSITIVE TO HOLY SPIRIT AND THE WORK THAT MUST BE DONE IN YOUR HEART.

WHEN YOU ALLOW THE SPIRIT OF GOD TO TAKE OVER YOUR LIFE EVERYTHING CHANGES.

YOU BEGIN TO SEE YOUR SIN AS GOD SEES YOUR SIN.

YOU BECOME VERY AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THOSE SINS YOU USED TO ENJOY ARE ACTUALLY KILLING YOU.

2ND CORINTHIANS 6:2

2 FOR HE SAYS:

***“IN AN ACCEPTABLE TIME I HAVE HEARD YOU,
AND IN THE DAY OF SALVATION I HAVE HELPED YOU.”
BEHOLD, NOW IS THE ACCEPTED TIME; BEHOLD, NOW IS THE DAY
OF SALVATION.***

**MANY OF YOU IN THIS ROOM HAVE EXPERIENCED THIS LIFE
CHANGING EVENT.**

**BUT THERE ARE SOME IN HERE WHO HAVE FOUGHT IT, RUN FROM IT,
AND DENIED IT.**

AND TO THOSE I SAY...

TODAY IS THE DAY OF SALVATION.

END WITH PRAYER...

**ASK BARRY, JUDY AND RAE ANNE TO COME TO THE FRONT FOR
ANYONE THAT MAY NEED PRAYER.**

