

Romans 10:5-13

Two kinds of righteousness
and saving faith that speaks

Review

Romans 9-11 is about Israel and their relationship to the gospel

The question that prompts the section

God's integrity in keeping His promises

Israel's responsibility in the matter

Our 3 questions

What does it say?

Authorial intent and intended audience

What does it mean?

Timeless theological truth

How does it apply?

What do we do with this?

Romans 10:4-13

⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down)

Romans 10:4-13

⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:4-13

¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Road map for our time

Two kinds of righteousness

Paul's use of the text

Catching up with the original audience

Grasping it all together

Personal reflection

Two kinds of righteousness

- 9:30-31
 - Righteousness by faith
 - Works/law based righteousness
- 10:3
 - Righteousness of God
 - Their own righteousness
- 10:5-6
 - Righteousness based on faith
 - Righteousness based on the law

Two kinds of righteousness

Romans 10:4

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

- 10:5-6

- Righteousness based on faith
- Righteousness based on the law

Romans 10:5 – The 1st kind

⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them.

Leviticus 18:5

⁵ You shall therefore keep my statutes and my rules; if a person does them, he shall live by them: I am the LORD.

Nehemiah 9:29 & Ezekiel 20:11-13

Romans 2:6-13

⁶ He will render to each one according to his works: ⁷ to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ⁸ but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. ⁹ There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek,

Romans 2:6-13

¹⁰ but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹ For God shows no partiality.

¹² For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³ For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.

The first kind of righteousness is based upon the works of the individual in accordance with God's law or commands.

... What's the problem?

Romans 3:9-23

¹⁰ as it is written:

“None is righteous, no, not one;

...

²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

...

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 5-7

Original sin in Adam (Romans 5)

The power of the flesh that enslaves (Romans 7)

Romans 10:6-9 – The 2nd kind

⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says

...

Romans 1:16-17

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Romans 10:6-9 – The 2nd kind

Romans 3:21-22

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Romans 10:6-9 – The 2nd kind

⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says ...

Paul uses two texts from Deuteronomy to again point to this kind of righteousness.
Deuteronomy 9:4 & 30:11-14

Paul's use of the text.

He presupposes an understanding of the scriptures in order to draw upon the spirit of the text.











Although this kind of use of quotation is rare in scripture, it is not unfamiliar to modern readers.

Deuteronomy 9:4 & 6

4 “Do not say in your heart, after the LORD your God has thrust them out before you, ‘It is because of my righteousness that the LORD has brought me in to possess this land,’ whereas it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is driving them out before you...

6 “Know, therefore, that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people.

Deuteronomy 9:4 & 6

The spirit of the text is to not claim that the good thing God is doing for you is in response to your own righteousness.

That is, righteousness based upon adherence to the law.

Deuteronomy 30:11-14

¹¹ “For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. ¹² It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ ¹³ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ ¹⁴ But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

Deuteronomy 30:11-14

The spirit of the text is saying a few things.

1. God has done the work of making His commands known.
2. Knowing God's requirements does not demand endless journeys up or out to acquire them.
3. Since God has done it, all that is required is submission to it, in your heart (center of will and desire) and mouth (symbol of corresponding action).

Combining ideas

Deuteronomy 9:4-11

Do not claim your own
righteousness

Deuteronomy 30:11-14

What God did with the
commandment, He has now
done with righteousness
through Jesus Christ

Romans 10:6-7

⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart,

‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down)

⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

Romans 10:8-10

⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

How does this speak into
Paul's larger point about
Israel being out and
gentiles being in?
What about us?

Romans 10:11-13

¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Last observation

Paul draws connection between Romans 10:9 and 10:13. “Jesus is Lord” and “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Jesus is not just master, but God

Conclusion

Righteousness is required by a holy God.

There are two paths to righteousness.

1. The kind we earn.
2. The kind God gives us through faith in Jesus Christ.

Everyone is a sinner, so the first path fails.

Only those and all those who put their faith in Jesus will be righteous and therefore be saved.

Application

Be careful to not think that the problem of the 1st century Jewish people is isolated.

The message is for everyone

Application

1. There is a nearly universal attempt to earn righteousness.
2. There is nearly a universal draw towards the unending pursuit of personal discovery of special knowledge and achievement.

Application

Do not fall so in love with the *pursuit* of truth that you deny the *revelation* of it.

Application

Abandon all hope of personally earned righteousness. Be honest.

Cling to the perfect righteousness accomplished for you by God in Jesus Christ.

Call on Jesus Christ, as Lord, for the forgiveness of your sins and you will be saved.

Questions

- Was there anything that jumped out to you from the text or sermon that you want to talk about?
- In terms of the practice of your life, which kind of righteousness do you typically pursue?
 - When was the last time you confessed sin?
 - Do you try to battle sin on your own or with help?
- Do you find it tempting to look for special knowledge through modern self-help books?
 - Do you spend more time reading scripture or consuming other forms media for the purpose of spiritual discovery?