Romans 10:14-15

¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

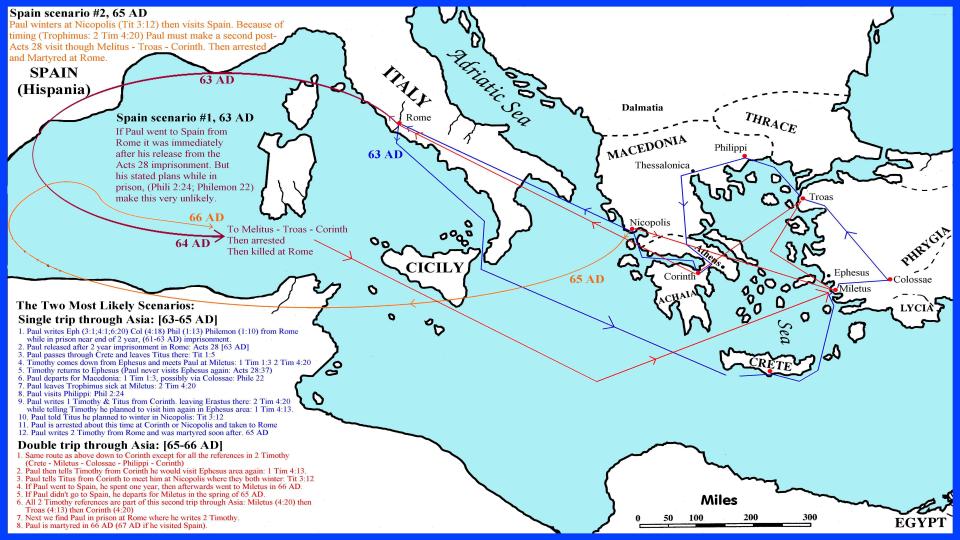
Romans 10:14-15

Who Needs The Gospel?

It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

(Romans 15:20)





Paul's desire is to get to Spain & he needs the church in Rome to help him get there

What Happens To People Who Never Hear The Gospel?

Seven Truths From Romans:

TRUTH NUMBER ONE

All people have knowledge of God the father.

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, (Romans 1:18)

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

(Romans 1:21)

TRUTH NUMBER TWO

All people <u>reject</u> the true knowledge of God.

²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth about God for a lie. (Romans 1:21-25a)

TRUTH NUMBER THREE

There are <u>no innocent</u> people.

⁹What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. ¹⁰As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; 11 there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. ¹²All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." (Romans 3:9-12)

What happens to the innocent guy in Africa who has never heard the gospel?

That guy does NOT exist.

The reason they need to hear the gospel is because at this moment they stand guilty before a holy God.

The reality is every single one of us is guilty before a holy God.

There are no innocent people in the world.

TRUTH NUMBER FOUR

All people then are condemned by <u>rejecting</u> God.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. (Romans 3:19)

No one is saved by the law.

Our best effort even

condemns us more.

Common idea...

If people have never heard the gospel, God would never send them to hell.

They aren't rejected for not hearing the gospel, they are condemned fundamentally for rejecting God.

Great Transition!

²¹But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²²This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:21-23)

TRUTH NUMBER FIVE

God has made a way of <u>salvation</u> for the lost.

What beautiful words...

"A sacrifice of atonement" that demonstrated His justice...
God put Him forward as a propitiation by His blood.

God took the full torrent of the wrath of God upon Himself and made a way of salvation for us!

TRUTH NUMBER SIX

People cannot come to God apart from faith in Christ.

No Boasting

Romans 3:27-31

²⁷Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded.
Because of what law? The law that requires
works? No, because of the law that requires
faith. ²⁸For we maintain that a person is justified
by faith apart from the works of the law.

²⁹Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, ³⁰since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. ³¹Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

A man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

If God has made a way for the lost through Christ and people cannot come to God apart from faith in Christ then it's excruciating to think of 1.5 million people who have not heard of Christ.

TRUTH NUMBER SEVEN

Christ <u>commands</u> the church to <u>take</u> the gospel to <u>preach</u> the gospel to <u>all</u> peoples.

For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile, the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, (Romans 10:12)

¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:14-15)

Note the reverse order

This verse is not about Paul's rhetorical skill but about God's redemptive plan.

It's about how the gospel is to get to the ends of the earth.

When we preach what happens?

¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

What happens when they hear?

¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

Not all but some

⁹After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." (Revelations 7:9-10)

What happens when they believe on Him?

¹⁴How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

What happens when they call?

So what's God's plan?

Where is the potential breakdown?

God in His infinite wisdom has made you and me "Plan A" for getting the gospel to all people!

The reality is you can look through the book of Acts... you won't find one verse there the gospel is going forward apart from a human instrument.

Most common question I hear...

"What is God's <u>will</u> for <u>my</u> life?"