

Romans 10 – 31 January 2021

“Religious Paralysis”

Introduction

*Paul wrote to the Roman church the greatest document on our salvation that there is

*Rom 1-8 describes our natural unrighteous state and the solution of believing that the cross of Christ paid on way into a right relationship with God

*Rom 9-11 Paul turns his attention to Israel

*Rom 12-end is the application of righteousness to all the arenas of our life

*In chap 9-11 Paul looks chronologically at Israel

Chap 9 – What happened to Israel all being saved?

Today in Chap 10 – What’s their condition now?

Chap 11 – What will be Israel’s end state?

We’ll see 4 things that religious people need to do

1st Thing that religious people need to do: Let go of unbiblical traditions & self-effort (Vs 1-4)

Read Vs 1

1. This desire hearkens back to chap 9:2-3
2. Notice Paul puts desire into action by prayer
 - a. Noticed I complain sometimes, “why aren’t certain people growing closer to the Lord”?
 - b. Instead of complaining, I’ve more & more put this desire into action by praying for them
 - c. As you pray, you find more action you can do for them!

Read Vs 2

1. Some have truth of God but no fervor.
 - a. They need to come alive by the Holy Spirit and get on mission, time is short
2. Jews & others have passion but w/o the truth.
 - a. Jews, Muslims...Pennsylvanians
3. They have passion...but unbiblical traditions
 - a. Some traditions are good

- b. Some traditions are prioritized higher than serving God
 - c. Some traditions are flat out unbiblical
4. Read Mat 15:1
- a. When tradition is untrue – get rid of it
 - i. Mary is the co-redemptrix – wrong
 - b. But also when tradition trumps love, unity of the brethren and God’s Word – get rid of it
5. Paul knew state they’re in, b/c he was there!!
- a. Read Gal 1:14 & II Tim 1:3 – He has always had zeal for God
 - b. Read I Tim 1:12-15 – Paul admits, in his self-effort & tradition...he had things wrong!

Read Vs 3-4

- 1. What knowledge do the Jews lack?
 - a. That you can’t gain right-ness w/ God by and thru yourself.
 - b. Christ can give us that right relationship w/ God.
- 2. Passion w/o truth is proud and unbending

2nd Thing that religious people need to do: Humbly confess Christ as Lord over all arenas of life (Vs 5-13)

Read Vs 5-8

1. Moses even made the case:
 - a. Righteousness could never be attained thru actions of doing...as if we can help Christ
 - b. Righteousness comes thru beliefs that come out thru the lips.
2. Notice vs 8 - the “word of faith”
 - a. It has a substance it’s founded in – JESUS
 - b. We’re saved thru speaking faith in Christ
 - c. This isn’t about gaining frivolous things thru speaking faith in...what, our own words.
(Name it & claim it, blab it & grab it)
 - i. We don’t put faith in our will
 - ii. We put faith in Christ’s work on the cross
3. All religions of man around world are based on man earning standing, we’re different!
 - a. Turn to Matt 23:2-5, 11-12 – humility

Read Vs 9-11

1. Believing Jesus rose from the dead will come out of your mouth as making Him master of all.
 - a. Lord/Master to a Gentile equates to Caesar
 - i. Are you willing to anger Caesar by putting him second place?
 - b. Lord to Jew equates to God Himself (LXX)
 - i. Are you willing to recognize Jesus as God?
2. Are there people in your life that you've never confessed Jesus to?
3. Belief in Christ Jesus will be accepted as entrance to God's presence
4. For anyone who got nervous in chap 9 w/ God choosing some to be saved...notice vs 11
 - a. All are welcome to come & God already knows who you are!

Read Vs 12-13

1. Confession of faith in Christ is for anyone!
2. Jews get saved the same way as the Gentiles

3rd Thing that religious people need to do: Receive the Word of God spoken to them (Vs 14-17)

Read Vs 14-15

1. So work this backwards & here's the process
 - a. Need people to be sent to unbelievers, then they can preach.
 - b. Then the unbelievers can hear & believe, then these new believers can appeal to God
2. There's more than just hearing the Word
 - a. Read Jam 1:21 – Receive it into your life

Read Vs 16-17

1. Faith coming by hearing the “spoken” and written word of God.
 - a. Back then, most people would only have the spoken Word of God
 - b. So if you want to increase your faith, study the Word of God.

2. This is the process of people getting saved, but they don't all receive it
 - a. In Luke 8 Jesus wanted telling the Parable of the Sower & the Seed talked about how different people hear & some receive the Word
 - i. After telling the parable w/o interpretation, He sent them away
 - ii. Disciples, who wanted to receive it, asked Him what the parable means.
 - iii. Therefore, He gave them the understanding of the parable...b/c they asked to receive it!
3. Similar to us today, Israel had the Word of God all around them, but many did not receive it!
4. Honing in on the 4th step of belief, notice, it's the Word of God that needs to be believed, not the speaker or some opinions.
 - a. Read Jer 26:1-3 – Don't take away from God's Word but give it all
 - b. Read I Thes 2:13 – Also, don't add to God's Word by giving our opinion

4th Thing that religious people need to do: Stop the animosity w/ Christian friends (Vs 18-21)

Read Vs 18

1. Israel had every reason to look to God instead of self including creation.
2. Creation cries to them of a savior (Psm 19)
 - a. The 12 stars of the Mazzaroth (Zodiac) calls for the virgin (virgo) to give birth to Messiah
 - b. Even creation knowledge leads you to look to God for salvation and not self
3. Even though Gentiles are getting saved, God hasn't held back from telling all Jews across the world of His love and salvation offered to them.

Read Vs 19-20

1. Didn't Israel know salvation is available to all?
 - a. Moses (Deut 32:21) & Isaiah (Isa 65:1) spoke of people other than Jews being in relation w/ God
 - b. Jesus spoke of others coming to Him in John 16:10
2. Jews had such contention with people who loved God...even other Jews
 - a. Read Mark 9:38-41
 - b. God has a big tent, be happy when others come to Him, even if they don't look like you!

Read Vs 21

1. God is always available to offer Israel His grace & love, but they won't come and receive it!
2. He's a gentleman – Read Hosea 5:15
3. Religious people build up pride, bitterness toward others and even anger. Pray for them by name and put your faith into action.

Conclusion

So Israel, like religious people today, need a change to align their life with God's will.

Maybe we fall into these tendencies

- 1. Let go of unbiblical traditions & self-effort**
 - a. If what we're doing doesn't agree with scripture, are you willing to change it?
- 2. Humbly confess Christ as Lord over all**
 - a. We shouldn't be trying to work our way to the top.
 - b. We should be trying to promote Christ to the top.
- 3. Receive the spoken Word of God**
 - a. Knowing & hearing aren't good enough.
 - b. Receive God's truth...all of it
- 4. Stop the animosity w/ Christian friends**
 - a. When others talk about religion, don't be offended, but start by asking yourself, "Is what they're saying Biblical?" Stop the contention!