

Intro: *Marvel. End credits. Endgame. "That's it?" Yep. (But not really). "BABE". Child. End Credits. Christ is the END GOAL. He's the final message. End of the Story. Goal & Purpose of Everything.*

Thesis: Our Salvation from Sin only comes by faith in the Gospel in the Name of Jesus"

I. A Saved Remnant (9:27-29)

- A. **Many descendants. Few remain.** Few will be saved. Many called. Few Chosen.
- B. **He keeps His promises.** Jesus promised to build His church. To save every one of His sheep.
- C. **When things seem dire for the church, there's always hope.** Jesus keeps His promises.

ILLUSTRATION: "You're up to something." Jesus's always up to something. Not to tease us. He loves.

- D. Thru History, Bible & Beyond, God has always been at work save & preserving His people. A faithful remnant because of His faithfulness to His promises.

ILLUSTRATION: 2 Chron. 22. Athaliah. Evil Queen. Kills off the Royal Line. Sons. Joash saved by His Aunt and Nurse. David's line was preserved through one singular offspring. A Son. Remnant saved.

- E. **Happened through History:** Noah, Josh/Caleb (12 spies + 40yrs), Israel/Judah (10/2 tribes), Waldenses, Reformation, Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodists, Baptist?
- F. **Always raised up new generations of believers,** provided new direction. **Spiritual Renewal.**

APPLICATION: 1. Are you one who tends to despair over state/condition of Church? Pessimist?
There's always hope. Look beyond your narrow world of American Christianity. See what Jesus is doing.

II. Saved by Faith (9:30-10:7)

- A. **So you're telling me** that pagan, immoral sinners, who lived whole life in rebellion will be called righteous simply because they "believed" in Jesus, and the religious people who have worked hard, been zealous to do their best, made sure not like the world, followed the traditions, gone to church, done all hoops/motions to be proper, good, polite, civilized and moral are unrighteous?!
- B. "Yep." **That's not fair!** That's why it's called grace. You don't deserve. Couldn't earn it.

ILLUSTRATION: Prodigal God. Extravagant. His grace & love are extravagant. Older/Younger bro.

C. Trusting in self & duties, rather than God and His Grace. Slave.No relationship with Father.

D. This is a Stumbling Block to religious people. Toured a House. "That's gonna get old"

ILLUSTRATION: Ohio St. vs Penn St. Video. People tripping over same step. **Brazil Stadium.** Off by just 1/2" or so. Just enough to catch the toes. Stumble. Trippin'. **Castle Stairs. Defense tactic.**

- E. **"Scandalous!" Offensive.** Gospel of Free Grace offends "good" religious people. Proud people.
- F. **Annoying, upsetting, frustrating, disrupting,** throws them off their rhythm. That's the Gospel.
- G. But the poor, broken, unlovable, neglected, forgotten, unseen, needy, shame sinners rejoice! **B/C**
- H. Christ is THE END of the Law. "Yea but don't we have to..." Nope. "But what about..." **THE END**

APPLICATION: 1. Not primarily worldly sinners that the Gospel offends, moral, religious people.
2. A lot of ppl are going thru motions. Climbing Religious steps.. Nominal Christianity. "Our family has always gone here." "Always been Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian." **Loyalty is good.** But who are you loyal to? Family? Tradition? Building? Denomination? Or Jesus? His Word?
3. Let the Gospel do the offending. Not you. Don't need to help it offend. If ppl are gonna be offended, make sure it's the Gospel of Jesus that offends them, not the arrogant, ungracious, unwise messenger.
4. Desire & Prayer is salvation (10:1). Goal is not offense. Offense can lead to salvation. Throw them off religious wagon, so they can see the glory of the mountains. Offense is not the goal. Salvation is the goal.

III. All Can Be Saved (10:8-13)

- A. **No accident** that this follows Romans 9, what we studied last week. **JUST BELIEVE.**
- B. **ANYONE. EVERYONE. ALL. Y'ALL.** All Inclusive Gospel. Exclusive Gospel. **JESUS.**
- C. **IF...you believe in heart, confess with mouth.** "JESUS." **Raised from dead means He died!**
- D. **Call on Name of the LORD.** What's His Name? "JESUS." "Name above every Name."
- E. "Are you a Christian?" "Believer?" **Not God, Family, Country...It's about Jesus.**
- F. **"How's your relationship with Jesus?"** Not God. Relationship w/ Jesus will tell me...
- G. **"GOD TALK."** Obey...Please...Follow...what wants...love...worship...trust...

CONCLUSION: Christ is THE END. THE WAY.

- H. *If you don't Know Jesus, you don't Know God.*
- I. *If you don't trust Jesus, you don't trust God.*
- J. *If you don't love Jesus, you don't love God.*
- K. *If you don't have Jesus, you don't have God.*
- L. *If you don't follow Jesus, you don't follow God.*
- M. *If you don't worship Jesus, you don't worship God.*
- N. *Haven't seen Jesus, won't see God.*
- O. *Don't believe Jesus, you don't believe God.*
- P. *If you deny Jesus, you deny God the Father.*
- Q. *Jesus is THE WAY to the Father. No one comes to God but through Him.*

Christ is THE END. *The Goal. The Purpose of the Whole Bible and Law and Commandments.*

"That's It? Just trust Jesus?" *Yep. That's it.*

THE END.