



CARING FOR THE LOST

August 10 & 11, 2024

Romans 9:1-8, 16, 18-23; 10:1-17 (NLT)

With Christ as my witness, I speak with utter truthfulness. My conscience and the Holy Spirit confirm it. My heart is filled with bitter sorrow and unending grief for my people, my Jewish brothers and sisters. I would be willing to be forever cursed—cut off from Christ!—if that would save them. They are the people of Israel, chosen to be God’s adopted children. God revealed his glory to them. He made covenants with them and gave them his law. He gave them the privilege of worshiping him and receiving his wonderful promises. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are their ancestors, and Christ himself was an Israelite as far as his human nature is concerned. And he is God, the one who rules over everything and is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.

Well then, has God failed to fulfill his promise to Israel? No, for not all who are born into the nation of Israel are truly members of God’s people! Being descendants of Abraham doesn’t make them truly Abraham’s children. For the Scriptures say, “Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted,” though Abraham had other children, too. This means that Abraham’s physical descendants are not necessarily children of God. Only the children of the promise are considered to be Abraham’s children.

... So it is God who decides to show mercy. We can neither choose it nor work for it. ... So you see, God chooses to show mercy to some, and he chooses to harden the hearts of others so they refuse to listen. Well then, you might say, “Why does God blame people for not responding? Haven’t they simply done what he makes them do?”

No, don’t say that. Who are you, a mere human being, to argue with God? Should the thing that was created say to the one who created it, “Why have you made me like this?” When a potter makes jars out of clay, doesn’t he have a right to use the same lump of clay to make one jar for decoration and another to throw garbage into? In the same way, even though God has the right to show his anger and his power, he is very patient with those on whom his anger falls, who are destined for destruction. He does this to make the riches of his glory shine even brighter on those to whom he shows mercy, who were prepared in advance for glory.

... Dear brothers and sisters, the longing of my heart and my prayer to God is for the people of Israel to be saved. I know what enthusiasm they have for God, but it is misdirected zeal. For they don’t understand God’s way of making people right with himself. Refusing to accept God’s way, they cling to their own way of getting right with God by trying to keep the law. For Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the law was given. As a result, all who believe in him are made right with God.

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Romans 9:1-8, 16, 18-23; 10:1-17 (continued)

For Moses writes that the law's way of making a person right with God requires obedience to all of its commands. But faith's way of getting right with God says, "Don't say in your heart, 'Who will go up to heaven?' (to bring Christ down to earth). And don't say, 'Who will go down to the place of the dead?' (to bring Christ back to life again)." In fact, it says, "The message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart."

And that message is the very message about faith that we preach: 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. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, "Lord, who has believed our message?" So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

3 Reasons I Must Share the Gospel:

- **My _____ regarding the messages of Jesus' death.**

Romans 9:1 (NLT)

With Christ as my witness, I speak with utter truthfulness. My conscience...

- **My _____ from God.**

Romans 10:2-3 (TPT)

For I know that although they are deeply devoted to God, they are unenlightened. And since they've ignored the righteousness God gives, wanting instead to be acceptable to God because of their own works, they've refused to submit to God's faith-righteousness.

- **My _____ from the Holy Spirit.**

Romans 9:1b (NLT)

My conscience and the Holy Spirit confirm it.

4 Facts About Salvation:

- **Salvation is based on God's _____, not our race.**

Romans 9:6 (NLT)

Well then, has God failed to fulfill his promise to Israel? No, for not all who are born into the nation of Israel are truly members of God's people!

- **Salvation is based on God's _____, not our preference.**

Romans 9:8-9 (NLT)

This means that Abraham's physical descendants are not necessarily children of God. Only the children of the promise are considered to be Abraham's children. For God had promised, "I will return about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

- **Salvation is based on God's _____, not our performance.**

Romans 9:10-13 (NLT)

This son was our ancestor Isaac. When he married Rebekah, she gave birth to twins. But before they were born, before they had done anything good or bad, she received a message from God. (This message shows that God chooses people according to his own purposes; he calls people, but not according to their good or bad works.) She was told, "Your older son will serve your younger son." In the words of the Scriptures, "I loved Jacob, but I rejected Esau."

- **Salvation is based on God's _____, not our merit.**

Romans 9:14-17 (NLT)

Are we saying, then, that God was unfair? Of course not! For God said to Moses, "I will show mercy to anyone I choose, and I will show compassion to anyone I choose." So it is God who decides to show mercy. We can neither choose it nor work for it. For the Scriptures say that God told Pharaoh, "I have appointed you for the very purpose of displaying my power in you and to spread my fame throughout the earth."

"We only care about the gospel when we share the gospel." – RML

Romans 10:1 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, the longing of my heart and my prayer to God is for the people of Israel to be saved.

We Care for the Lost When We:



_____ **God does the saving.**

Romans 9:19, 22 (NLT)

Well then, you might say, "Why does God blame people for not responding? Haven't they simply done what he makes them do?" ... In the same way, even though God has the right to show his anger and his power, he is very patient with those on whom his anger falls, who are destined for destruction.

Romans 10:4 (NLT)

For Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the law was given. As a result, all who believe in him are made right with God.



_____ **we should be a welcoming church, especially for the lost souls.**

Romans 9:23 (NLT)

He does this to make the riches of his glory shine even brighter on those to whom he shows mercy, who were prepared in advance for glory.

Romans 10:12-13 (NLT)

Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Luke 19:10 (NLT)

For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.

1 Corinthians 9:22-23 (TPT)

I became “weak” to the weak to win the weak. I have adapted to the culture of every place I’ve gone so that I could more easily win people to Christ. I’ve done all this so that I would become God’s partner for the sake of the gospel.

Grace is:

- _____ for anyone who wants to attend or watch.
- _____ to anyone who steps on our property, regardless of their lifestyle.
- _____ in every weekend service, weekday event, or function.
- Culturally _____ to the culture we live in.

1 Chronicles 12:32b (NLT)

All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take.



_____ I am personally responsible for sharing the gospel.

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But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!”

Acts 1:8 (TPT)

But I promise you this—the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and you will be seized with power. You will be my messengers to Jerusalem, throughout Judea, the distant provinces—even to the remotest places on earth!

Romans 5:1, 20 (TPT)

Our faith in Jesus transfers God’s righteousness to us and he now declares us flawless in his eyes. This means we can now enjoy true and lasting peace with God, all because of what our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, has done for us... So then, the law was introduced into God’s plan to bring the reality of human sinfulness out of hiding. And yet, wherever sin increased, there was more than enough of God’s grace to triumph all the more!

How?

- Share what I used to _____ about salvation.
- Share what I _____ out is the true gospel.
- Share what God has _____ since I trusted Christ as my Savior.

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