

Musing #64: Romans 10:5-21

We left off with the infinite extent of God's sovereignty...

The Kingdom of God is the eternal rule of God over everything and everybody, everywhere, for all time and eternity. It is above time yet envelops time; it transcends time and endures time. A million billion ages ago God's Kingdom existed; a million billion years from now, it will still exist. Being eternally permanent, it wins the right to be called "everything," because everything else is either encompassed by it—or will ultimately cease to be. — Jack Taylor

Paul was clarifying to both Jews and Gentiles that the resurrected Christ is the end of the law—that no one's works can equal what God Himself, through His Son Jesus has accomplished for His people.

In one of Ray Stedman's commentaries on Romans, he challenges readers with, **"It may startle you to realize that Paul is saying that Moses taught salvation by grace through faith, just as Paul did."**

Romans 10:5-9 Msg — Moses wrote that anyone who insists on using the law code to live right before God soon discovers it's not so easy—every detail of life regulated by fine print! But trusting God to shape the right living in us is a different story—no precarious climb up to heaven to recruit the Messiah, no dangerous descent into hell to rescue the Messiah. So what exactly was Moses saying? The word that saves is right here, as near as the tongue in your mouth, as close as the heart in your chest. It's the word of faith that welcomes God to go to work and set things right for us. This is the core of our preaching. Say the welcoming word to God —"Jesus is my Master"—embracing, body and soul, God's work of doing in us what he did in raising Jesus from the dead. That's it. You're not "doing" anything; you're simply calling out to God, trusting him to do it for you. That's salvation.

"Believe" is a verb...meaning, a "continual trust and dependence upon..."

There are many in our churches today that seldom talk about the Lord. There is a tendency that they don't want to "offend" a neighbor, a co-worker, a friend—that faith is something personal and doesn't need to be openly discussed in our private life.

Romans 10:9 Phillips, "If you openly admit by your own mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord, and if you believe in your own heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." For it is believing in the heart that makes a man righteous before God, and it is stating his belief by his own mouth that confirms his salvation.

John 5:44 No wonder you can't believe! For you gladly honor each other, but you don't care about the honor that comes from the one who alone is God.

10:10-13 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."

10:14-15 Now how can they call on one in whom they have never believed? How can they believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how can they hear unless someone proclaims him? And who will go to tell them unless he is sent? As the scripture puts it: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!'

Many Bible Colleges and Seminaries are attended by those who "went" but were not "sent" — It was all about them for a variety of reasons!!! Christian workers should not just "choose" to go into ministry. They need to be "sent." Paul was compelled!!!

10:16 Yet all who have heard have not responded to the Gospel. Isaiah asks, you remember, 'Lord, who has believed our report?' Belief you see, can only come from hearing the message, and the message is the word of Christ.

Ephesians 2:8-9 Msg — Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves.

If it is to be saving faith, it must be about the Lord Jesus Christ — the only name that carries salvation. All of Scripture is about Christ.

John 5:39 You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!

Luke 24:45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

As Paul previously said,**all who have heard have not responded (vs. 16)**

10:18-20 But when I ask myself: "Did they never hear?" I have to answer that they have heard, for 'Their sound has gone out to all the earth, and their word to the ends of the world'. Then I say to myself: "Did Israel not know?" And my answer must be that they did. For Moses says: 'I will provoke you to jealousy by those who are not a nation. I will anger you by a foolish nation (Gentiles). Later Isaiah spoke boldly for God, saying, "I was found by people who were not looking for me. I showed myself to those who were not asking for me."

Psalm 19:1-4 The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world.

1 Corinthians 1:18-24 Select The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent." So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish.when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense. But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Moses prophesied that God would use a people of lesser intellectual capacity than the Jews. However, the Jewish people possess remarkable intelligence.

More than 12 percent of Nobel Prize winners have been Jewish.

Not only will God use those less intelligent, but also those who are less motivated. We Gentiles weren't looking, or even asking about God, but neither are most Jews...

A Good Old Testament verse to share with a Jewish friend is, **Isaiah 65:1 The Lord says, "I was ready to respond, but no one asked for help. I was ready to be found, but no one was looking for me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am!' to a nation that did not call on my name.**

10:21 And then, speaking of Israel: 'All day long I have stretched out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people'. God's patience is beyond understanding.

2 Chronicles 36:14-16 All the leaders of the priests and the people became more and more unfaithful. They followed all the pagan practices of the surrounding nations, desecrating the Temple of the Lord that had been consecrated in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, repeatedly sent his prophets to warn them, for he had compassion on his people and his Temple. But the people mocked these messengers of God and despised their words. They scoffed at the prophets until the Lord's anger could no longer be restrained.

Is God's patience about to run its course? He does have limits. Here is some prophetic insight, referred to as the traditional Ussher Chronology...

The Ussher chronology is a 17th-century chronology of the history of the world formulated from a literal reading of the Bible by James Ussher, the Archbishop of Armagh (Church of Ireland). The chronology is sometimes associated with young Earth creationism, which holds that the universe was created only a few millennia ago by God as described in the first two chapters of the Biblical book of Genesis.

Ussher deduced that the first day of creation began at nightfall preceding Sunday, October 23, 4004 BC, in the Julian calendar, near the autumnal equinox. John Lightfoot, in the 1600s, similarly deduced that Creation began at nightfall near the autumnal equinox, but in the year 3929 BC.

Consider this very brief notations of events. Daniel's prophecy of seventy "weeks of years" (9:24-27), are reaching fulfillment.

Abraham's birth was about 1,948 years after creation.

Abraham's career began at about 2000 B.C. (born 2056).

That puts Christ at about 4,000 years into the earthly plan.

We are now past the year 2000 AD.

If "one day is with the Lord as a thousand years"

We are in, or approaching, the end of the sixth day.

What was the 7th day?—A Day of Rest!

The millenium is a time of work, rest, and peace for 1,000 years!

Which would complete the week of 7 that Daniel spoke of.

Thus 7,000 years that God dealt with earth and mankind. (See Daniel 9)