

Righteousness By The Law – VS5

Paul reaches back to the Pentateuch, the Torah, to draw out important truth concerning righteousness by way of The Law. **See Leviticus 18:5** In short, the person who looks to The Law for righteousness must keep it, in its entirety, and must keep it, perfectly. **See Deuteronomy 27:26**

Truth Point #1: The Law of God is righteous. If anyone is to attain to its righteousness, they must keep the law _____. One transgression violates not only the singular law that is broken, but violates the _____ law as well. **See James 2:10**

Can you feel the frustration and see the futility of trying to attain righteousness by the keeping of God's Law? Fact is, before you matured enough to be taught God's Law you had already broken it.

See Galatians 3:10

Despite the self-evident nature of the impossibility of attaining righteousness by way of The Law, Israel had doubled down on their reliance on The Law and turned their back on the righteousness that comes through Christ.

Righteousness By Faith – VS6-10

Understanding VS6-8 requires one to go with Paul back to **Deuteronomy 30:11-14**. There we find a passage where Moses speaks of God's Word, His commandments, as being clearly presented and accessible so that the Israelites have no legitimate reason to disregard or disobey them. From this he makes the same case about his message of FAITH.

Truth Point #2: Paul's point concerning the word of faith is the same as Moses' point concerning the word of the commandment. That which is required to attain right standing with God is _____. In fact, it is as close to you as your _____ and your _____.

I'm reminded of Paul's words in **Romans 2:15**, how God has written His law in our hearts. Humanity instinctively knows what is righteous, because God has placed it in our inner being. Therefore, we are without excuse.

Paul brings that point home concerning the message of faith in Christ.

- We don't have to go into heaven to bring Him down, **He has already come to earth.**
- We don't have to descend into the place of the dead to bring Him back because **He has already risen from the dead.**
- Having heard the good news about Christ, His righteousness is as close to you as your **mouth** and your **heart.** **See Romans 10:9-10**

Breaking it down.

1. Paul refers to **VS9-10** as "the word of faith." Meaning that this good news about Jesus is something that must be received by _____.

It's not going to be proved by analytical thought, nor can it be applied by some good work that we do. Rather as The Spirit shines His revelatory light on the message and work of Christ, sinners must cooperate with Him, trusting His testimony, following His prompting.

2. The Spirit will prompt us to confess Jesus as _____!
See 1 Corinthians 12:3

It is the Holy Spirit who opens our eyes, not only to our sin, but also to the fact that Jesus is LORD. He becomes our master and we His disciples and/or servants. The confession of Jesus as Lord is much more than a repeating of the words, but is an inward understanding and attitude of the heart that surrenders to Him as MY LORD, as well as MY SAVIOR.

3. The Spirit will enliven faith to believe in the _____ and _____ of Christ for our sin.

Paul only mentions Jesus' resurrection from the dead, but we know by the multitude of Scriptures that Jesus was raised from the dead, because He died as the sacrifice for sin.

Truth Point #3: Jesus' death on the cross means nothing if He was not _____ from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from death means nothing, if He did not first die as the _____ for sin.

These two facts MUST go together, or Jesus' death is just another death, and His resurrection is just another miracle. Together however, they are God's provision for the salvation and eternal life of sinners who trust Him and His saving work.

VS10: whereas **VS9** speaks of essential truths concerning Jesus as the Messiah, **VS10** speaks to the necessary response from sinners who are awakened to the essential truths of Christ.

Take note of **the order** Paul gives to the sinner's response.

1. It begins in the _____. The soul is where _____ is born resulting in _____.

Although we must hear the message of the gospel with our ears, and process it in our minds, **(Rom 10:17)** it is in the heart, the inner person, that belief is born. This belief or faith is God's gift to the sinner as to receive His grace. **See Ephesians 2:8.**

2. It finishes with the _____. A believing heart will _____ sin, _____ in the saving work of Christ, and His _____ resulting in salvation.

Someone will ask, can I be saved if I only speak these things in my heart? Of course you can speak to God in your heart and be saved. But Jesus said that out of the abundance of the heart a person will speak, be it evil or good. See Matthew 12:34

Truth Point #4: There is no way to keep true faith in Christ _____ in one's heart. If true faith in Christ is in the heart, the mouth will _____!

One of the salient points of both **Deuteronomy 30:11-14** and **Romans 10:6-10** is you don't have to go searching for God. He's not over that distant mountain, or in the depths of a distant sea. He is not tucked away in some temple, tabernacle or cathedral. God is a close to you as your next breath, your next word, literally He is right on top of you.

No matter where you are, what you've done, or even what you believe, He is right in your face, and He is communicating with you in ways you can't even imagine.

His message to you is: Jesus, My Son, My righteousness. Believe in His death for sin and resurrection to new life. Confess Him as your Lord and Savior and receive His righteousness. He will forgive your transgression, remove the stain of your sin, He will make you My dearly loved child and a citizen of My eternal kingdom.

All of that is right in your face, right now!

Wrap Up

Won't you open your heart to Him? Won't you trust in His love that took Jesus to the cross and raised Him from the dead? If you don't believe that OK. But if you sense a stirring in your soul, a voice calling you to Jesus, won't you respond?

Believer, you have family and friends who need to hear this message, won't you share it with them? Won't you ask God to open their eyes, to give them faith, to call them to repentance, and to save their soul?

Contact Information

mrose@themissiondsm.org

515-664-2460