

What About Israel?

Part 4

Israel Rejected the Gospel

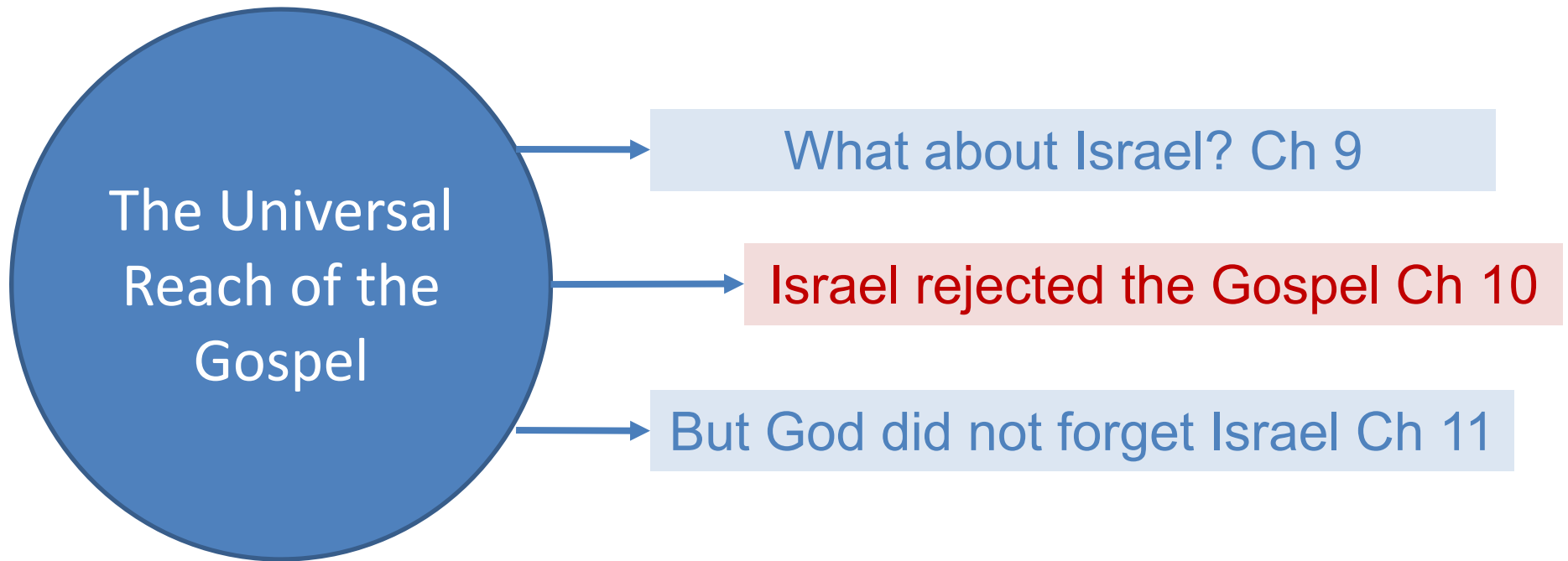
(Romans 10:1-21)

Survey of Romans part 38

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October 21, 2018

A SUMMARY OF ROMANS 9 to 11:



Romans 9 - What about Israel?

1. Israel **Covenantal Privileges** (v. 1-5)
2. Israel True Identification (v. 6-8)
3. Israel Sovereign Election (v. 9-24)
4. Israel Remnant and Gentile Inclusion (v. 25-33)

Israel Rejected the Gospel Chapter 10

I – 10:1-4 is a repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

II – Israel **Rejected the Righteousness of the Gospel** in the Law 9:5-13

III – Israel **Missed the means to Believe** for Righteousness 14-17

IV - Israel's **Rejected the Preached Word** of the Gospel 18-21

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My ideal
road



Israel Rejected the Gospel Chapter 10

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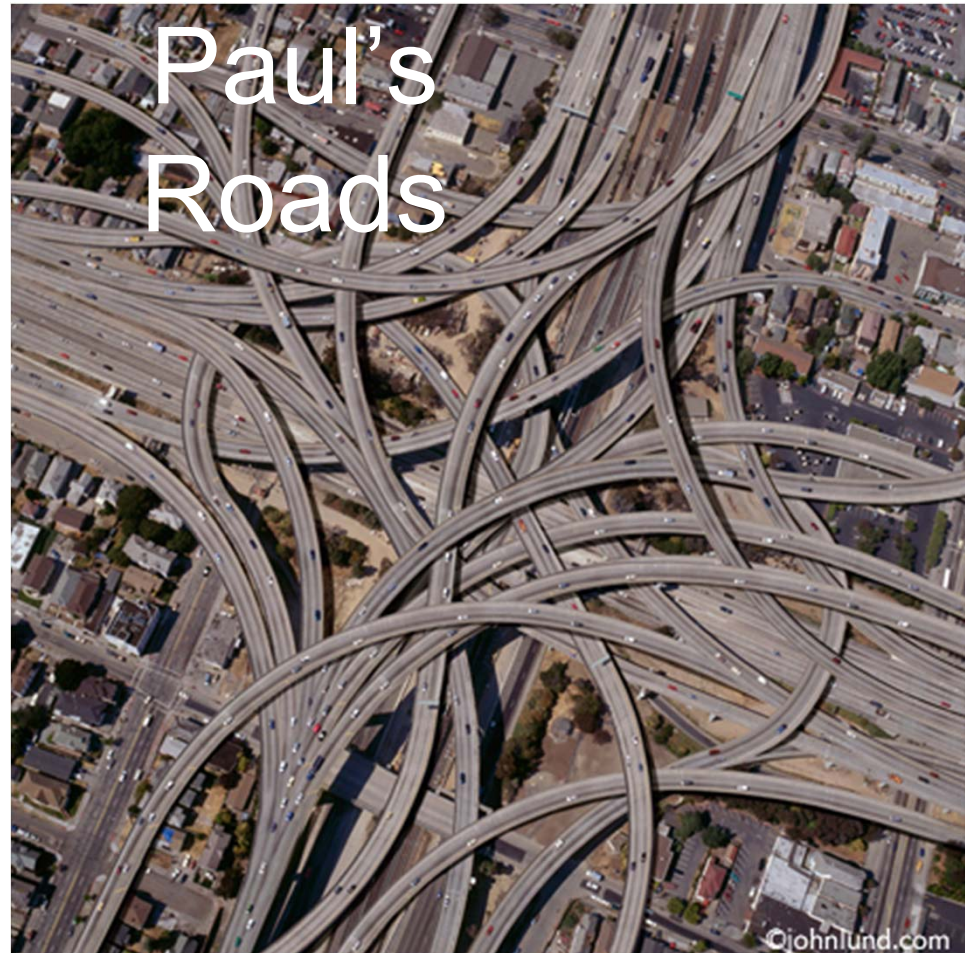
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I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

Romans 10:1-4

Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.

² For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

³ For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

a) Paul had a missionary heart to Israel

Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for **their salvation**.

- Despite being disowned and rejected, he loved them.
- His heart's desire and prayer was for “**salvation**”.
- Salvation is the greatest need a person has. *“What does it profit a man to gain the whole world if he loses his soul?”*
- Does that remind you of someone who prayed for forgiveness over those who crucified Him?
- Do we know this “love for our enemies”? Or, do we sound more like an imprecatory Psalm?

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

b) Paul's motivation: empathy with their ignorant zeal

For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

- I bear them witness. He understood their zeal. He used to be a Pharisee himself

Phil 3:4 “although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; **as to the Law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church;** as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.”

Acts 22:3 "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city, **educated under Gamaliel**, strictly according to the law of our fathers, **being zealous for God**, just as you all are today. ⁴ "And I **persecuted this Way to the death**, binding and putting both men and women into prisons.”

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

c) What was their zeal without knowledge?

3 For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

- We have to go back the concept of God's Righteousness and how can a person attain to it.
- Righteousness is: *"...the nature of [what is] moral, good, correct, true, factual, excellent, just, virtuous, natural, morally upright, correct, balanced, and honorable..."*
- William Craig states: *"God is the paradigm, the locus and the source of all righteousness."*

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

c) What was their zeal without knowledge?

3 For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

- God's Righteousness is summarized in the 10 Commandments:
 1. No other gods before God.
 2. No physical images or resemblances of God.
 3. No use of God's Name in vain.
 4. Remembering God and resting from work once a week (on the Day of Rest).
 5. Honoring Father and Mother.
 6. Preserving Human Life (thou shalt not kill).
 7. Marital sexual fidelity (thou shalt not commit adultery)
 8. Preserving our neighbor's property (thou shalt not steal)
 9. Protecting our neighbor's honor and reputation (thou shalt not bear false witness against your neighbor)
 10. Being content with our possessions (thou shalt not covet your neighbor's goods).

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- 10 Pillars of Righteousness that Jesus translated into 2 Love Principles:

1. Love God with all your mind, heart and soul.

For in so doing you will not have other gods, will not reduce God to images, will not take His Name in vain, and will remember Him on His day.

2. Love your neighbor as you love yourself.

For in so doing you will honor your parents, preserve your neighbor's life, wife, reputation, property and not envy his possessions.

We would live happily forever if we could do that...

But we can't!

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

c) What was their zeal without knowledge?

3 For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

- Zeal without knowledge is and has been the forger of man-made religion: atoning for sin, justification and validation before God are sought after in ourselves.
- **Deceived Sincerity** or **Proud Devotion** is at the root of the old refrain: “the road to hell is paved with good intentions”.
- Israel did not subject themselves to **God's righteousness**.
- Leviticus 18: 4 “You are to perform My judgments and keep My statutes, to live in accord with them; I am the LORD your God. ⁵ 'So you shall keep My statutes and My judgments, **by which a man may live if he does them**; I am the LORD.”
Comp Galatians 3:12 “The man who does these things shall live by them.”

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c) What was their zeal without knowledge?

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- The statement to live by keeping the Law, appears **laced** in an instruction manual for blood-shedding sacrifices.
- “Living by practicing the Law”, appears on the book about how to offer **Atoning Sacrifices** for sin. *Isn't that strange?*
- What Israel received from God was: “keep my statutes that you may live”, but one day, God will raise you a prophet whom you must listen.
- Stephen said this man was Jesus and Paul heard that sermon!

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c) What was their zeal without knowledge?

3 For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

- This was the same person God promised to Adam and Eve, that would come to crush the serpent's head.
- The One whom the prophets called “the root of the stem of Jesse”, who would be raised as a banner to the nations.
- But **the Jews didn't get it!** They did not understand God's Righteousness and as a result, they sought to establish their own.
- This has been **the story of man-made religion** since the beginning of time; these are Adam & Eve's fig tree leaves.

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul’s heart for Israel

d) “Christ, the end of the law”.

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

My apologies for what follows, but we need it.

➤ *Anyone can copy paste this from the Internet.*

➤ *Who cares for this gibberish?*

te,loj ga.r no,mou Cristo.j eivj dikaiosunhn panti. tw/| pisteu,onti

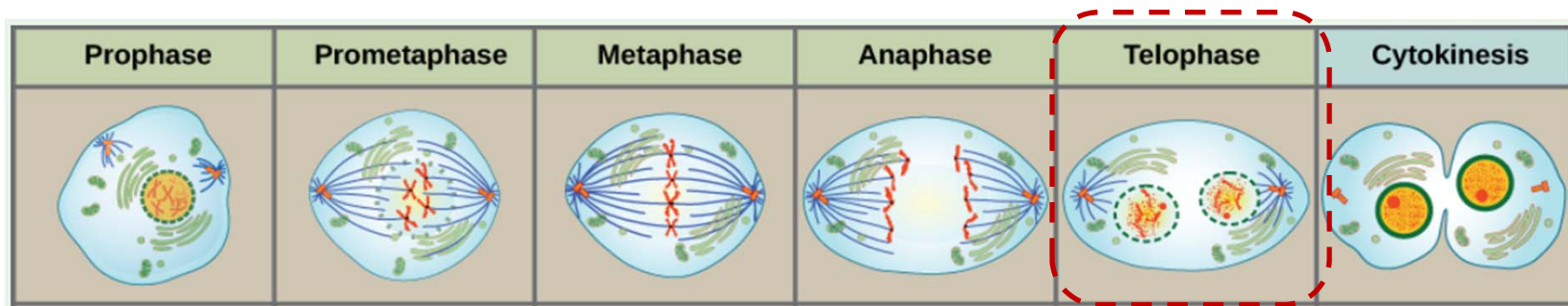
[the] end for/because [of the] law Christ toward righteousness [to] everyone who [is a] believer

- **End**: is a correct rendering, but it is not a well understood translation by us English speakers of the word “telos” te,loj
- **End** is combined with a preposition of motion (eis) and the linguists say, this combination adds a nuance to its meaning.

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul’s heart for Israel

d) “**Christ, the end of the law for righteousness**” to the believer.

- Remember your middle school Biology Class? The phases of cellular division?
- Telo-phase: is the *final, completed* phase of two *totally developed* nuclei which have formed.



I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

d) **“Christ, the end of the law for righteousness”** to the believer.

- When telos is considered “statically” (no motion) yes, it means “end”, “finish” or “termination”.
- However, this is not what the text means, if by it, it is interpreted that a Christian shouldn't care about the Law.
- Many assume this text teaches, that if you are in Christ, the Law, sin and holiness don't matter, because “Christ is the end of the Law.”
- **This is not what Paul is affirming!**

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul’s heart for Israel

d) “**Christ, the end of the law for righteousness**” to the believer.

- Now in our text, there is a preposition of motion *eivj* “Telos” toward righteousness (*eivj dikaiosunhn*)
- In this case, “telos” means: outcome, end- result or purpose.
- The way to understand Romans 10:4 is therefore, “Christ is the *completed fulfillment* of the Law for righteousness” or “Christ is *the end result* or the *final purpose* of the Law for righteousness”.
- Of course this is qualified by: “**to everyone who believes**”. Otherwise, it would be “universalism”.

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

d) **“Christ, the end of the law for righteousness”** to the believer.

- In Galatians 3:24 Paul wrote: *“Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith.”*

Seeking validation before God through our obedience is unbearable and painful. **Our Righteousness and Justification are Alien and Forensic.**

Our validation before God stands on Jesus' obedience both in His life and in His atoning death. Here lies the difficult task of preaching the gospel to ourselves daily. **Our power to obey lies on believing the Gospel**, but we insist on inverting the order.

I - A repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel



Where are we???

Israel Rejected the Gospel - Chapter 10



9:5 is a repetition of 9:1-4 – Paul's heart for Israel

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Where are we???

Israel Rejected the Gospel - Chapter 10

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- A. Paul’s **Missionary Heart** for Israel: he prayed for salvation
- B. Paul’s **Motivation**: he understood their zeal without knowledge
- C. What was Israel’s “**zeal without knowledge**”? They missed the Righteousness of God in the Law
- D. They missed that **Christ is the fulfillment of the Law** to the one who believes.

End
Questions?