

Romans 10:8-13 • Christ For Righteousness

*“A great many people are mightily taken up about their own works, and but very little about Christ's. Our righteousness doth not stand in our own works; but stands in Christ's works, what Christ did, and suffered for us in his life, and death, and resurrection; therein stands our righteousness. Now, how many poor creatures are there that reckon it a great matter, and glory mightily in their own doings: if they pray, and hear, and read, and can but make any sort of reformation in their conversation, **how big do these things appear in their eyes!** But Christ's life and death, and all his great performances for our salvation, are mean and low, and of small esteem with them. And do not these sort of people seek righteousness by the law? **Aye surely.**”*

They look for eternal life, but they look for it as a reward of works, and not as an inheritance given by gift and grace; and all servants and slaves must do so, and all natural men are slaves, they are children of the bondwoman, (Gal. 4:31); they work for fear of punishment, and in hopes of the crown: they work for wages; **the wages they love**, and would have, **but the work they hate**. Whereas the **believer acts just the contrary; he loves the work, and he expects the wages as the gift of grace from the blessed Father he serves**. The apostle makes a great distinction between these two; "Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ, (Gal. 4:7). Every man that is for righteousness by the works of the law is a servant; he looks upon God as his master, and the law as his master's will, and he sets about obeying with all his might. **Now, is not this a good servant? Yes. But all such servants go to hell: you must be children, for none but children are saved.**”

*“He that seeks righteousness by the law, is a man that never saw his need of grace: and you may be well assured that that man will frustrate the grace of God, who never saw his utter need of it. **He was never so far emptied, but he expects and imagines that he shall be able to work out a righteousness for himself**, and so is not brought under any conviction of his utter need of the grace of God; whereas he that is for the grace of God in Christ alone, is a man that hath a great need of the grace of God, and sees himself undone without it.”*

Robert Traill (1642-1716)

Matthew 19:16 And behold, a man came up to him, saying, “Teacher, **what good deed must I do to have eternal life?**”

Matthew 9:11 And when the **Pharisees** saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with **tax collectors** and **sinners?**”

Matthew 9:12 But when he heard it, he said, “**Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.**

Matthew 9:13 Go and learn what this means: ‘**I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.**’ **For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.**”

Matthew 18:33 And should not you have had **mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?**’

Matthew 5:3 “Blessed are the **poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “**I am the way, and the truth, and the life.** No one comes to the Father **except through me.**

Romans 9:3 For I could wish that I myself were **accursed** and **cut off from Christ** for the sake of **my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh** (ethnic Israel).

Romans 9:6 & 8

“**But it is not as though the word of God has failed.**
For not all who are descended from Israel (ethnic Israel) **belong to Israel**
(spiritual Israel),”

“This means that
it is not the **children of the flesh** (ethnic Israel)
who are the children of God (spiritual Israel),
but the children of the promise (spiritual Israel) **are counted as offspring.**”

Romans 10:1 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for **them (ethnic Israel)** is that they may be saved.

Romans 10:2 For I bear them witness that they (**ethnic Israel**) have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.

Romans 10:3 For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, **they (ethnic Israel) did not submit to God's righteousness.**

Romans 10:4 For Christ [is the end of the law] for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Romans 10:5 For Moses writes about the **righteousness that is based on the law**, that the person who **does the commandments shall live** by them.

James 2:10 For whoever **keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.**

Romans 3:23 for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God,

2Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin **who knew no sin**, so that in him **we might become the righteousness of God.**

1Peter 1:18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,

1Peter 1:19 but with the **precious blood of Christ**, like that of a **lamb without blemish or spot.**

Galatians 2:21 I do not nullify the grace of God, **for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.**

To believe that any righteousness could be obtained through adherence to the law nullifies the grace of God and dishonors Christ.

Romans 10:5 For Moses writes about the **righteousness that is based on the law**, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them.

Romans 10:6 But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring **Christ** down)

Romans 10:7 “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring **Christ** up from the dead).

Romans 10:8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

Everything that follows is Paul’s attempt to make one simple point:

The person who does the commandments shall live.

*What is too hard for ethnic Israel & us, is not too hard for Christ. God credits His obedience to us. There is nothing ethnic Israel did to make this happen, and their is nothing we can do to make this happen. Christ is our obedience.
Christ for righteousness.*

Paul under inspiration of the Holy Spirit uses Deuteronomy to make this point but substitutes commandment for Christ.

Reading #1

Deuteronomy 30:11 “For this **commandment** that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is **it** far off.

Deuteronomy 30:12 **It** is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring **it** to us, that we may hear **it** and do **it**?’

Deuteronomy 30:13 Neither is **it** beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring **it** to us, that we may hear **it** and do **it**?’

Deuteronomy 30:14 But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

Reading #2

Deuteronomy 30:11 “For this **commandment** that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is [the **commandment**] far off.

Deuteronomy 30:12 [the **commandment**] is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring [the **commandment**] to us, that we may hear [the **commandment**] and do [the **commandment**]?’

Deuteronomy 30:13 Neither is [the **commandment**] beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring [the **commandment**] to us, that we may hear [the **commandment**] and do [the **commandment**]?’

Deuteronomy 30:14 But the word is **very near you**. It is in your mouth and in your heart, **so that you can do it**.

Reading #3

Deuteronomy 30:11 “For this **commandment** [Christ] that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is [the **commandment**] [Christ] far off.

Deuteronomy 30:12 [the **commandment**] [Christ] is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring [the **commandment**] [Christ] to us, that we may hear [the **commandment**] [Christ] and do [the **commandment**] [Christ]?’

Deuteronomy 30:13 Neither is [the **commandment**] [Christ] beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring [the **commandment**] [Christ] to us, that we may hear [the **commandment**] [Christ] and do [the **commandment**] [Christ]?’

Deuteronomy 30:14 But the word [the word of faith that we proclaim] is very near you. It [the word of faith that we proclaim] is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it [the word of faith that we proclaim].

Romans 10:9 because, 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.**

Luke 6:45 The good person out of the **good treasure of his heart produces good**, and the **evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil**, for **out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.**

Ezekiel 36:26 And **I will give you a new heart**, and a **new spirit** I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Romans 10:10 For with the **heart one believes** and is **justified**, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Romans 10:11 For the Scripture says, “**Everyone who believes in him** will not be put to shame.”

Romans 10:12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, **bestowing his riches on all who call on him.**

Romans 10:13 For “**everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**”

Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among **the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.**