Zeal Without Knowledge

Israel failed to be saved because they sought God by works instead of faith.

Introduction

Chapter 9 taught us that God has remained faithful to His promise to save Israel, as well as the Gentiles through the promised seed who is Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:16). Chapter 10 will teach us that only those placing faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:1-4

V.1 A Desire for Israel's Salvation

The desire of Paul's heart.

Romans 9:1-3 KJV I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, (2) That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. (3) For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

Paul's prayer to God. Like Moses. Numbers 14:11-23 Like Jesus.

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

V.2-4 Israel Missed Salvation

A zeal without knowledge

knowledge; G1922, full or complete.

Knowing about God isn't the same as knowing God.

Paul's example. Philippians 3:5-7

It's not your works for God, but your relationship with God that yields salvation.

Matthew 7:22-23 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Working to establish their own righteousness.

going about; G2212, seek, Hebraism worship. Present tense Greek verb, continuous action.

Would not submit to God's righteousness, faith in Christ Jesus Christ has fulfilled the goal of the Law.

Matthew 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Only God's righteousness can save you.

Acts 4:12 KJV Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

You must submit to God's way to be saved.

James 4:6-7 KJV But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. (7) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Conclusion

We have seen in chapters 8 and 9 that God is faithful to call and save those who He has foreordained to salvation. However, in this chapter we will see that man is responsible to submit to the righteousness of God that is only found through faith in Jesus Christ the Lord.

What about you? Are you guilty of a zeal without knowledge? Do you know God or do you just know about Him? Are you working to establish your own righteousness, or do you have the righteousness of God? The righteousness of God can only be received through faith in the promised seed, Jesus Christ the Lord.