

**Intro:**

XXXVIII. Israel's Failure - Pt 2: Ignorance of the Provisions of Christ and the Place of Faith

A. Israel's Ignorance of the Provisions of Christ - vs 4a

1. The New Covenant meant and end of the Old - Heb 8:13

a. Jews of the NT period were trying to fulfill the law by their own efforts even though the promise of the New covenant said they broke the old – Jer 31:32

b. The New Covenant promises – Jer 31:31-34; Eze 36:25-28

i. a new heart, the law written on it, - Jer 31:33a; Eze 36:26

ii. they will be His people, He their God – Jer 31:33b

iii. they shall all know me – Jer 31:34a; Eze 36:28

iv. Cleansing from sin – Jer 31:34b; Eze 36:25

v. The Spirit of God within you and cause you to walk in My statutes – Eze 36:27

c. Trying to keep the Old broken one when there is a new that does everything for you points to ignorance

2. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness - Ro 10:4a

a. He is the only one that could have fulfilled the Old being God in the Flesh - Heb 12:24; 13:20

b. The old, demanded Perfection or Death, He provided both and more - 2 Co 5:21

B. Israel's Ignorance of the Place of Faith - vs 4b-10

1. Righteousness is granted to "everyone who believes" - 4b.

a. If one could be righteous through the Law, they would have to live them out in perpetuity and perfectly - vs 5; De 27:26; Jas 2:10

b. The purpose of the law was two-fold

i. For Israel to remain in the land of blessing - De 28:1-2

ii. Knowledge of sin/ tutor to point to Christ – Ro 3:20; Gal 3:24-25

2. But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, - vs 6-8

a. "Do not say in your heart,

i. 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, " 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

ii. If one could look for Christ in heaven or the depths of the earth it wouldn't save them

iii. God's way of salvation has already been clearly and abundantly revealed

b. But what does it say? – vs 8

i. "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): - De 30:14 quote

ii. Even in the OT, men could only come to God through faith - Ge 15:6

### 3. Conclusion – vs 9-10

#### a. What is necessary – Confessions and Faith

i. Faith in the Person - if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus

- notice the contrast w/ vs 10 – you – personal invitation/ “the” – general to all mankind

- true repentance shows itself in action, many acknowledge Jesus as Son of God and Lord of the universe, but personal submission is the defining characteristic of true faith – Jas 2:17-19

ii. Faith in the work of the person - believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead you will be saved.

- The resurrection proved who Christ is - Ro 1:4

- Faith in His work brings righteousness and salvation - Ro 4:24

- Apart from the resurrection, there is no salvation - 1Co 15:17

- In both vs 9 and 10 Faith come from the center and the whole of the person – the heart,

- though the mind is involved, this is not an intellectual acknowledgement – Jas 2:19

- though the emotions are involved, they are a sign of what God is doing to bring about true repentance - 2Co 7:9

#### b. How it works in reverse order

i. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness

- The center and most important part of the person – Prov 4:23

- Real righteousness that comes not by the law – vs 5, but by faith – vs 6-8 is imputed – Ro 4:24-25

- Righteousness is what we become (declared), salvation refers to what we escape

ii. and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation

- **homologeō** - to assent, i.e. covenant, acknowledge:--con- (pro-)fess, confession is made, give thanks, promise.

- A life that shows salvation is real, is the result

- Remember that behavior come from the heart and is spoken of as speech – Mt 15:19; Mr 7:21