



Dr. Joe K. Taylor, Senior Pastor, South Reno Baptist Church, Reno, NV ⦁ August 16, 2015

All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. ⦁ Pew Bible Page Number is 1044.

In the Study Verse Section, God’s Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe’s commentary in the smaller faced text.

Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets.



1. The word “righteousness” (theme of Rom. 10) means ‘right-ness’ with God.

2. When God forgives, He also forgets our sins. (It’s our sin that stands between us and a Holy God.)

3. When we believe in Jesus Christ, God *declares* us righteous.

4. The SOURCE of Righteousness (or *right-ness* with God) is Jesus Christ.

🙞🙜

**2. The Reception of God’s Righteousness.**

**1. The Availability of God’s righteousness.**

 **A. Where not to look?**

**Romans 10:6–7, HCSB** *- 6 But the righteousness that comes from faith speaks like this:* ***Do not say in your heart, “Who will go up to heaven*** [lit., the heavens]***?”*** *that is, to bring Christ down 7 or,* ***“Who will go down into the abyss?”*** *that is, to bring Christ up from the dead.*

**Romans 10:6–7, TLB** *- 6 But the salvation that comes through faith says, “You don’t need to search the heavens to find Christ and bring him down to help you,” and, 7 “You don’t need to go among the dead to bring Christ back to life again.”*

 **B. Where to look?**

**Romans 10:8, HCSB** *- 8 On the contrary, what does it say?* ***The message*** [Gk: ῥῆμα (*REE-ma*) “a unified message understood as a single word that leads to action”] ***is near you, in your mouth and in your heart.*** *This is the message of faith that we proclaim:*

**Intro (joke)** - I heard about a man who really loved dogs. He devoted his life to them, ­he read about them, studied them, and even gave talks about them to other dog lovers. One day he decided to pour a new sidewalk in front of his house. His neighbor watched from his window as he smoothed out the last square foot of cement. Just then, a large dog appeared and walked through the fresh cement, leaving paw prints behind. The man muttered something under his breath and smoothed out the damage. He then went inside to get some twine so he could put up a fence around the sidewalk. But, when he got back outside, he discovered some more dog tracks in his fresh cement. He smoothed out the cement and put up the fence. He then went into the house. Five minutes later he looked outside and saw some more paw prints. He was really mad now. He got out his trowel and smoothed the cement one more time. As he got back to his porch, the dog reappeared and sat right in the middle of the sidewalk.

He went inside, grabbed his gun and shot the dog dead. The neighbor rushed over and said, “Why did you do that? I thought you loved dogs.” The man thought for a minute and said, “I do, *I do like dogs. But that’s in the abstract. I hate dogs in the concrete.”*

If we talked about “**cars**” in the abstract v. concrete….

If we talked about “**dessert**” in the abstract v concrete…

◼◼ For the past few weeks, we’ve talked about being right with God in the abstract…. ◼ Today, we talk about “**being right with God**” in the concrete…..

**Stand and Read the Text**

Everything about the Jewish religion pointed to the coming Messiah—their sacrifices, priesthood, temple services, religious festivals, and covenants. Their Law told them they were sinners in need of a Savior. But instead of letting the Law bring them to Christ (Gal. 3:24), they worshiped their Law and rejected their Savior. The Law was a signpost, pointing the way. But it could never take them to their destination. The Law cannot give righteousness; it only leads the sinner to the Savior who can give righteousness. ◼ Much of our society today is like the Israel of Paul’s day, our society says, “To be right with God, we must do something.” Let’s talk about the right way to be right with God in very simple, concrete terms…..

**STAND AND READ THE TEXT**

 **🡼Review**

**2. The Reception of God’s Righteousness.**

***“What is the right way to be right with God?”***

**A. It is conceived in the heart.**

**Romans 10:9, NLT** *- 9 If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

**James 2:19, HCSB** *- 19 You believe that God is one; you do well. The demons also believe—and they shudder.*

 **B. It is confirmed by the mouth.**

**Romans 10:9, NCV** *- 9 If you declare* [Gk: ὁμολογέω, (*homo-la-GEŌ*­), a legal term meaning to take an oath of agreement, lit., ‘confess’] *with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and if you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved.* **From what? Eternity w/out God.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **The Point** | Keep this passage in context: **We must remember that Romans 9 deals with the sovereignty of God. In light of that truth, we realize in Romans 10 that****God in His sovereignty gives mankind both the privilege and responsibility to say “yes” to Him.** |

**Romans 10:13, KJV 1900** *- 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

|  |
| --- |
| **Life Application Section – “The Roman Road of Salvation”** (Dr. R.G. Lee) |

**A. Every person is a sinner – Romans 3:23 –** *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”*

**B. God’s penalty for sin is death – Romans 6:23 –**  *23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**C. In His great love, Christ died for our sins – Romans 5:8, HCSB –** *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**D. Each person must put his/her faith in God’s Son, Jesus Christ** **– Romans 10:9-10, 13** **–**  *If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation…13 For* ***everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.***

George Swanson had a plan to get to heaven. He was buried in His corvette. He planned to drive His white corvette down the highway to heaven and arrive at "the Pearly Gates in style" the newspaper column said. That was George Swanson plan.

◼ Unfortunately for him, it is not God’s plan.

**Homo** means *“same”*: **Legeo** means *“to speak a word”* (ie., Court/Marriage)

Back in the days of Jesus, if you called someone your LORD, that meant that they owned you and that you had surrendered your life and possessions to them. (Hint: Slaves don’t own things….homes, families, clothing, things, everything belongs to your LORD.

**Conclusion:** **Ernest Hemingway** loved to write about the country of **Spain**. In his **short story**, ***The Capital of the World***, Hemingway tells of a father and son who had stopped talking to one another. Things got so bad that the son left home. After several years, the father wanted to mend the relationship and so he looked everywhere for his son. When he came to the capital city of **Madrid**, he decided to go to the newspaper office and take out a big ad in the newspaper that said this: “Pah-co, please meet me at 12 noon tomorrow in front of the newspaper office -- all is forgiven. I love you. Your Father.”

The next day at 12 noon, there were 800 men named Pah-co standing in front of the building!

◼ I suspect that this morning, we some “Pah-co’s” here who also need forgiveness of their sins—that which stands between you and Holy God.