



Called
to the
Gospel

What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith;

ROMANS 9:30



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but the people of Israel, who pursued the Law as the way of righteousness, have not attained their goal.

ROMANS 9:31



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Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone.

ROMANS 9:32

**As it is written: “See, I lay
in Zion a stone that causes
people to stumble and a rock
that makes them fall, and the
one who believes in Him will
never be put to shame.”**

ROMANS 9:33



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Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.

ROMANS 10:1



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**For I can testify about them
that they are zealous for God,
but their zeal is not based on
knowledge.**

ROMANS 10:2

Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

ROMANS 10:3



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**Christ is the culmination of
the Law so that there may be
righteousness for everyone
who believes.**

ROMANS 10:4

“God’s sovereignty is compatible with human responsibility. Israel should have believed the Gospel and trusted in Christ, but the majority refused to do so.”

ESV STUDY BIBLE

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“In verses 6–29, Paul explains why anybody is saved; it is the sovereign election of God. In verses 30–33, he shows us why anybody is lost, and the explanation of that is their own responsibility.”

JOHN STOTT

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The Right Way to Righteousness (9:30–33)



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**“People either build on [Christ]
in faith or stumble over Him
to their ruin.”**

NIV ZONDERVAN STUDY BIBLE



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**“Why do people stumble
over the cross? Because
it undermines our self-
righteousness.”**

JOHN STOTT

“The fact that Christ died for our sins is proof positive that we cannot save ourselves. But to make this humiliating confession is an intolerable offence to our pride.”

JOHN STOTT



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For salvation, good works are a wonderful evidence. But good works are a terrible entrance.

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**For it is by grace you have been
saved, through faith — and
this is not from yourselves, it is
the gift of God —**

EPHESIANS 2:8



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**not by works, so that no one
can boast.**

EPHESIANS 2:9



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**For we are God's handiwork,
created in Christ Jesus to do good
works, which God prepared in
advance for us to do.**

EPHESIANS 2:10



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**If someone else thinks they
have reasons to put confidence
in the flesh, I have more:**

PHILIPPIANS 3:4



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circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the Law, a Pharisee;

PHILIPPIANS 3:5



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**as for zeal, persecuting the
Church; as for righteousness
based on the Law, faultless.**

PHILIPPIANS 3:6



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**But whatever were gains to
me I now consider loss for the
sake of Christ.**

PHILIPPIANS 3:7

What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ

PHILIPPIANS 3:8

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and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

PHILIPPIANS 3:9

“Paul believed deeply that he was carrying out the will of God. But his encounter with the risen Lord opened his eyes to see Him as the Messiah of God...”

F.F. BRUCE

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**“In his zeal for the Law he
had actually opposed the
purposes of God.”**

F.F. BRUCE



“It is precisely because they desired to achieve their own righteousness that they failed to believe in Christ, for believing in Christ gives all the glory to God while observing the Law means that glory and praise [comes to us].”

THOMAS SCHREINER



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The Wrong Kind of Passion (10:1-4)





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**“Sincerity is not enough,
for we may be sincerely
mistaken.”**

JOHN STOTT

In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

1 PETER 5:5

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”

MATTHEW 5:17

“Christ is not the end of the Law in an absolute sense. He does not abolish the will of God as expressed in the Law. Rather His coming signals its end with regard to the attainment of righteousness...”

F.F. BRUCE

“For it is only in the response of faith to Christ, in the humble submission to God’s righteousness that the bondage of the Law — its revelation of sin and its inability to help us beyond it — can come to its end.”

F.F. BRUCE



“Like the finish line in a race, Christ was what the Law all along was directed toward; and now that Israel has reached the finish line (the coming of Christ), the race (the Law) has ended.”

NIV ZONDERVAN STUDY BIBLE

“The first step to obtaining the righteousness of God is to renounce our own righteousness. There are only two possible options before us...”

JOHN STOTT

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“The first is to attempt to build or establish our own righteousness, by our good works and religious observance. The other way is to submit to God’s righteousness by receiving it from Him as a free gift through faith in Jesus Christ.”

JOHN STOTT

Religion vs. The Gospel

RELIGION

“I obey; therefore, I’m accepted.”

Motivation is based on fear and insecurity.

I obey God in order to get things from God.

When circumstances go wrong, I’m angry at God or myself since I believe that good people deserve comfortable lives.

When I’m criticized, I’m furious or devastated because it’s critical for me to think of myself as a “good person.” Threats to that self-image must be destroyed at all costs.

My prayer life consists largely of petition, and it only heats up when I’m in a time of need. My main purpose in prayer is controlling my environment.

My identity and self-worth are based mainly on how hard I work or how moral I am, so I must look down on those I perceive as lazy or immoral.

THE GOSPEL

“I’m accepted; therefore, I obey.”

Motivation is based on grateful joy.

I obey God to get God — to delight in and resemble Him.

When circumstances go wrong, I struggle but know all my punishment fell on Jesus and while God may allow this for my training, He’ll exercise His Fatherly love within my trial.

When I’m criticized, I struggle but it’s not essential for me to think of myself as a “good person.” My identity isn’t built on my own record or performance but on God’s love for me in Christ.

My prayer life consists of generous praise and adoration. My main purpose in prayer is fellowship with God.

My identity and self-worth are centered on the One who died for me. I’m saved by grace, so I can’t look down on those who believe or practice something different from me. I am what I am only by grace.

**True righteousness
is only attainable
through faith in
Christ.**





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