



# Going Deeper

R o m a n s 1 0 : 1 - 1 3

## Big idea

Salvation is not a heroic achievement of human sincerity, but a humble reception of Christ's finished work.

## Sermon recap

### Zeal Without Knowledge (Verses 1–3)


Zeal Without Knowledge (Verses 1–3) Israel's problem wasn't a lack of belief in God, but misdirected devotion. They were passionate and religious,

### The Goal of the Law (Verses 4–8)

Christ is the telos—the fulfillment and culmination—of the Law. Paul contrasts righteousness by "doing" (the Law) with righteousness by "trusting" (faith). We don't have to climb to heaven or descend to the abyss to find God; Christ has already done the work. Salvation is not about what "I" have achieved, but what "HE" has accomplished.

### A Matter of Perspective: Law vs. Faith (Verses 30-33)

Salvation is accessible to everyone who calls on the name of the Lord. It requires inward trust (belief) and an outward shift in allegiance (confession). By quoting Joel, Paul affirms that Jesus is Yahweh and the Lord of all. In Christ, ethnic and social distinctions are erased—the same riches of grace are available to anyone who believes.

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## How to go deeper this week

### Day 1 — Compassion Over Arrogance

**Read:** Romans 10:1; Philippians 3:4-6

**Reflect:** Paul's deep knowledge of the truth didn't make him proud; it made him prayerful. Does your theology drive you to argue with others or to pray for their salvation?

**Pray:** Ask God to give you a heart that breaks for the lost rather than a mind that weaponizes doctrine against them.

### Day 2 — Sincerity is Not the Savior

**Read:** Romans 10:2-3

**Reflect:** It is possible to be "morally serious" and "biblically informed" but still lost. Are you relying on your own sincerity or on God's righteousness?

**Pray:** Repent of any attempt to "earn" your standing with God and thank Him for the gift of His righteousness.

### Day 3 — The Unexpected Guest

**Read:** Romans 10:4-8

**Reflect:** Does your reason for going to heaven start with "I" (my work) or with "HE" (Christ's work)?

**Practice:** Memorize: "Salvation is not a heroic achievement; it is a humble reception."

### Day 4 — The Trap of Religious Pride

**Read:** Romans 10:9-10

**Reflect:** Is your faith an "inward trust" only, or is it an "outward allegiance" others can see?

**Pray:** Ask for the courage to publicly identify with Christ this week regardless of the cost.

### Day 5 — No Distinction

**Read:** Romans 10:11-13; Joel 2:32

**Reflect:** If the Gospel erases all human barriers, how should you view those from different backgrounds?

**Practice:** Pray for someone you consider "different," asking God to show them His grace.

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## Practical applications


- **Shift Your Vocabulary:** Focus your testimony on Christ's "finished work" rather than your "religious work."
- **Audit Your Zeal:** Ensure your religious activities are fueled by a desire to know God, not a desire to prove yourself.
- **Call on the Name:** Remember that God is not unreachable; He is as near as a prayer of faith.

## Reflection and discussion

1. Paul had a "zeal for God" before he met Christ. Why can religious zeal actually be a barrier to the Gospel?
2. What does it mean that Christ is the "end" or "goal" of the Law? How does that bring you peace?
3. Why does Paul emphasize both "heart" belief and "mouth" confession?
4. How does the "First Person vs. Third Person" concept clarify the Gospel for you?
5. With the "advantages" we have (Bibles, comfort), how can we ensure we don't squander our opportunity to believe?

## Scripture for further study

- Philippians 3:4-9 (Paul's religious resume vs. Christ)
- Leviticus 18:5 (The requirement of the Law)
- Deuteronomy 30:11-14 (The word is near you)
- Joel 2:28-32 (Calling on the name of the Lord)
- Matthew 5:17 (Christ fulfilling the law)

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