

Romans 10:1-21 (NRSVue)

Where did Israel go wrong?

Romans 10 Outline

- A. Israelites, zealous but mistaken (1-4).
 - B. Special revelation (5-11).
 - C. One Lord for all (12-15).
 - B' Audible revelation (16-18).
- A' Israel, disobedient (19-21).

A. Zealous but mistaken

¹ Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for [Israelites] is that they may be saved.

² For I can testify that they have a zeal for God, but it is not based on knowledge.

- Israelites: Descendants of Jacob.
- Zeal: Dedicated (for or against).
- Knowledge: Accurate understanding.

³ Not knowing the righteousness of God and seeking to establish their own, they have not submitted to God's righteousness. ⁴ For Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

- Submit: To yield or to obey.
- Culmination: Telos, goal or outcome.

B. Written revelation

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'"

- Moses: Lev. 18:5; Deut. 30:12-14

⁷ "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ...

- Mouth: Public admission.
- Heart: Inner commitment.

⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, [then] you will be saved.

- If: Salvation is conditional.
- Confess: From baptism onwards.
- Believe: Trust and remain faithful.
- Raised: Out of hell into his body.
- Saved: Receive what Jesus promised.

8 Mouth and Heart Deut 30.14

⁹ Confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord → God will save you.
Believe in your heart God raised Jesus

¹⁰ Believe in the heart → righteousness (acquittal)
Confess with mouth → salvation (everlasting life)

¹¹ Believe in "him" → no shame (Isa 28.16)

¹² Call on the Lord → he is generous to all

¹³ Call on the Name Yahweh → God will save you (Joel 3.5)

If confess Jesus as Lord = call on Yahweh, then Jesus = Yahweh.

¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ [For] the scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”

- Righteousness: Acquitted neutral.
- Salvation: All that Jesus promised.
- Shame: Exposed. Isa. 28:16.

C. One Lord for all

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

- Generous: To share wealth.
- Call: To higher authority. Joel 2.32
- Lord: Jesus (v. 9) = Yahweh (v. 13).

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

B' Audible revelation

¹⁶ But not all have obeyed the good news, for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?”

¹⁷ So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

- Obey: "Repent and believe!" Mark 1:15
- Message: *Akoé*, audible.
- Word: *Hréma*, speech.

¹⁸ But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have:

“Their voice has gone out to all the earth
and their words to the ends of the world.”

- Voice: Psalm 19:4, of sky and law.
- Earth: *Gén*, the land, ancient Israel.
- Ends: Acts 1:8, limits of the land.
- World: *Oikoumené*, Roman empire.

A' Israel, disobedient

¹⁹ Again I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says, “I will use those who are not a nation to make you jealous; with a foolish nation I will provoke you.”

- Moses: Deut 32.21
- Nation: *'am* = people, *göy* = nation.
- Provoke: To anger, like Yahweh's anger

²⁰ Then Isaiah is so bold as to say,

“I have been found by those who did not seek me;
I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.”

²¹ But of Israel he says,

“All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people.” [Isa. 65:1-2]