

# Romans Refresh

Renewing Gospel-Centrality

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## Romans 9-11

➤ *Israel's unbelief and the promise of God*

### 1. The Word of Promise and Judgment (9:1-29)

- Paul emphasizes the freedom of God in His mercy and hardening in creating children of God
- presently, God is showing mercy to Gentiles but Israel has been reduced to a remnant through God's judgment/hardening

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## Romans 9-11

➤ *Israel's unbelief and the promise of God*

1. The Word of Promise and Judgment (9:1-29)
2. An Explanation of Israel's Failure (9:30-10:21)

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<sup>30</sup> What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which is by faith; <sup>31</sup> but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at *that* law. <sup>32</sup> Why? Because *they did not pursue it* by faith, but as though *it were* by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone, <sup>33</sup> just as it is written,  
 "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE,  
 AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

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<sup>1</sup> Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for *their* salvation. <sup>2</sup> For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. <sup>3</sup> For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. <sup>4</sup> For Christ is the end of the law so that there might be righteousness to everyone who believes.

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## Explaining Israel's Failure

### 1. Israel's response to the "word of faith"

- they stumbled over Christ because they did not heed the Law
- they did not submit to God's righteousness in Christ because they sought to establish their own by the law

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## Explaining Israel's Failure

### 2. The nature of the "word of faith"

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<sup>5</sup> For Moses writes about the righteousness which is based on law: the man who does these things shall live by them. <sup>6</sup> But the righteousness based on faith speaks as thus: "DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' (that is, to bring Christ down), <sup>7</sup> or 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)." <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART"—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

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<sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

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## Explaining Israel's Failure

### 2. The nature of the "word of faith"

- it is a message that simply demands faith for righteousness, not works or human effort
- it's content is the work of God in the crucified and risen Christ
- it is universally accessible to every human being, Jew or Gentile

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## Explaining Israel's Failure

### 3. The proclamation of the "word of faith"

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<sup>14</sup> How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL OF GOOD THINGS!"

<sup>16</sup> However, they did not all heed the gospel; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" <sup>17</sup> So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

<sup>18</sup> But I say, surely they have never heard, have they? Indeed they have;

"THEIR VOICE HAS GONE OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH,  
AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD."

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<sup>19</sup> But I say, surely Israel did not know, did they? At the first Moses says,

“I WILL MAKE YOU JEALOUS BY THAT WHICH IS NOT A NATION,  
BY A NATION WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WILL I ANGER YOU.”

<sup>20</sup> And Isaiah is very bold and says,

“I WAS FOUND BY THOSE WHO DID NOT SEEK ME,  
I BECAME MANIFEST TO THOSE WHO DID NOT ASK FOR ME.”

<sup>21</sup> But as for Israel He says,

“ALL THE DAY LONG I HAVE STRETCHED OUT MY HANDS TO A  
DISOBEDIENT AND OBSTINATE PEOPLE.”

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## Explaining Israel's Failure

### 3. The proclamation of the “word of faith”

- God has sent messengers of this good news; the essential conditions for faith are fulfilled
- in fulfillment of Scripture, this proclamation is met by the unbelief of Israel and by faith among the Gentiles

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## Implication:

- The *necessity* and *certainty* of gospel proclamation for salvation

*So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. (Rom. 10:17)*

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