

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 10

EXTRA READING: Apostle's Creed & Canons III/IV, art 17 (pg. 109)

SINGING: 164:1-4 – 112:1-4 – 187:1-4 – 351:1-2 – 309:1, 3 – 238:1-3

Three Opening Observations ...

- Making a covenant with God is a most sacred matter (Ex. 24:7)
- Israel's history is a story with many sad departures from true faith
- Romans 10 sets out a departure all too common within us

<p style="text-align: center;">THE SIMPLICITY AND BEAUTY OF GOSPEL SALVATION</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">I. What is Gospel salvation? II. How is one to receive Gospel salvation?</p>

I. WHAT IS GOSPEL SALVATION?

A. Gospel salvation contains two words: *Gospel and salvation*

1. Paul expounds the Gospel message as ...

a. the joyful truth that God has provided in Jesus Christ everything poor, needy, guilty and lost sinners needs (vs. 3)

b. the amazing truth that God has brought this message to us (5-7)

c. the gracious truth that God is **patiently** stretching forth His hands to disobedient and obstinate people (21)

d. the hopeful truth not only *brings the message* but *applies it* (17)

2. The truth of 'salvation' is a heavenly gem (vs. 1, 11)

a. In what does this saving consist?

In delivering a person from the greatest evil and making him partaker of the supreme good. (A. Hellenbroek)

II. HOW IS ONE TO RECEIVE GOSPEL SALVATION?

A. The answer on this is **as hidden as the content** of salvation

1. without Spirit's light, all men seek salvation by *doing and being*

2. Gospel unfolds God's method: *on basis of Christ's righteousness (doing and being) we receive by faith will we be saved: see vs. 11*

B. What must I do to be saved?

1. Believe with the heart in and confess with the mouth the Lord Jesus Christ (vs. 9-11)
 - a. Paul called this earlier *submitting oneself to right of God* (vs. 3)

b. what we believe in the *heart* will be confessed with the *mouth*

C. What does the Divine, authoritative Word says about such: vs. 11, 13

1. Note that the *least degree of such faith unites with Christ and saves!*

Finally: But I dare not place my hope in Christ because I am not humbled enough on account of my sins and feel I don't mourn enough!

A. What gives a sinner permission to take refuge to Chris the Savior?

B. What is the purpose of *the humbling convictions* about my sins?

- a. though the *humbling convictions* one will become more *willing* to take his/her refuge to Christ

b. but if you fear to take your refuge to His open arms of grace because you feel you are not humbled enough, then you are held captive by

- the power of unbelief

- a legal mindset