

Romans

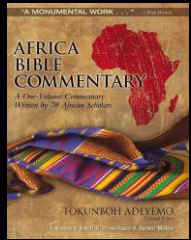


DID GOD'S
PLAN FAIL?

Last Week

God's word has not failed - he chooses to
show mercy

“Believers all over the world are among the objects of God’s mercy...God has called us to be a special people belonging to him. God has called us not because of who we are but because of who he is – the sovereign God. We have no right to be proud and arrogant. Our salvation is none of our own doing; it is all by the divine will of God.”



~Excerpt From Africa Bible Commentary, Tokunboh Adeyemo

This Week's Sermon

"Never Put to Shame"

Romans 9:30-33

Romans 9:30-33

30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; 31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. 32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 as it is written,

Romans 9:30-33

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

Today's Message

1. Biblical Theology Geology
2. Missing the Messiah
3. Faith as the Antidote

Biblical Theology Geology

Rock of Refuge



Rock of Offense



Psalm 18:1-3

I love you, O Lord, my strength.

2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my
stronghold.

3 I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies.

Isaiah 28:16

therefore thus says the Lord God,

“Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in
Zion,

a stone, a tested stone,

a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation:

‘Whoever believes will not be in haste.’

Isaiah 8:11-15

11 For the Lord spoke thus to me with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying: 12 “Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. 13 But the Lord of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. 14 **And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 15 And many shall stumble on it. They shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken.”**

“In Isaiah 8:13–15 the prophet foretells how the Assyrian invasion will sweep over the land of Israel like the waters of a great flood. But there will be one place of refuge from the overwhelming water: God himself will prove a ‘sanctuary’ to all who put their trust in him, a rock on which they will stand secure. Those, however, who do not entrust themselves to him but put their confidence in other powers or resources will be swept by the flood against this rock and come to grief upon it; to them, far from being a place of refuge, it will prove a dangerous obstacle — ‘a stone of offence and a rock of stumbling.’”

~Excerpt From TNTC Romans (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries), F. F. Bruce

Psalm 118:22-24

22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Acts 4:8-12

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them,
“Rulers of the people and elders, 9 if we are being
examined today concerning a good deed done to a
crippled man, by what means this man has been healed,
10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of
Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,
whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead —
by him this man is standing before you well.

Acts 4:8-12

11 This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

1 Peter 2:4-8

4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do
not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

8 and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were
destined to do.

Missing the Messiah



Romans 9:31-32

30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a

righteousness that is by faith; **31 but that Israel who**

pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not

succeed in reaching that law. 32 Why? Because they

did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on

works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, **33**

as it is written,

“Israel’s problem was not their adherence to the law, but their rejection of the anticipated messiah, who fulfills the righteous requirements of the law on their (and our) behalf. Rejecting God’s free gift of righteousness by faith means they have gained nothing from their law-keeping.

~Steven E. Runge, High Definition Commentary: Romans (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2014), 176.



Romans 9:32b-33

They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 as it is written,

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

Matthew 23:37

37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”

Luke 19:37-40

37 As he was drawing near – already on the way down the Mount of Olives – the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, 38 saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” 39 And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” 40 He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

John 6:28-29

28 Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” 29 Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”

30 So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?”

“The principle of salvation by our own works exalts man, and you may be sure that it must be an error for that reason. On that principle you are your own Savior. Everything hinges upon what you do and what you feel and Jesus Christ is nowhere. If you were to get to heaven by this road, you would sing to your own praise and glory. This system puffs you up, and makes you feel what an important person you are to deserve so well of God. It smells of that pride which the Lord abhors.”

~Charles Spurgeon



Foot Locker

Fwy

HOLLYWOOD
WALK OF FAME

“I want to thank me for believing in me, I want to thank me for doing all this hard work. I wanna thank me for having no days off. I wanna thank me for never quitting. I wanna thank me for always being a giver and trying to give more than I receive. I wanna thank me for trying to do more right than wrong. I wanna thank me for being me at all times.”

~Snoop Dogg

“Their efforts were based not on faith but on personal performance. Their efforts were doomed from the beginning because God does not accept sinners on the basis of what they do. Righteousness comes by faith and faith alone. God does not allow himself to be put in debt to people and their best efforts. The approach that says righteousness can be earned fails to grasp the enormity of sin. Our separation from God is so great that only he can bridge the gap. He chooses to do it entirely on his own. Our only responsibility is to accept by faith the finished work of Christ on behalf of sinners.”

~Robert H. Mounce, *Romans*, vol. 27, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), 206.

Works-Based Thinking

Person

- I am better than you.
- Insert categories / examples

Performance

- I do better than you.
- Insert categories / examples

Lifestyle

- I live better than you.

Beliefs

- I think better than you.
- Insert categories / give examples

The Prayer of Works

'God, I thank you that I am not like _____

(Luke 18:11)

Faith as the Antidote

Luke 17:11-19

11 On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance 13 and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." 14 When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice;

Luke 17:11-19

16 and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Romans 9:30-33

30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith...

Romans 1:16-17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."





“Why could God not have decided to give justification to all those who sincerely show love? Or who show joy? Or contentment? Or humility? Or wisdom? Why did God choose faith as the means by which we receive justification? It is apparently because faith is the one attitude of heart that is the exact opposite of depending on ourselves. When we come to Christ in faith we essentially say, “I give up! I will not depend on myself or my own good works any longer.”





LIVE



#GOLDENGLOBES

Thank you.

I am two-time Golden Globe winner Jim Carrey. You know when I'm going to sleep at night, I'm not just a guy going to sleep. I'm two-time Golden Globe winner Jim Carrey going to get some well needed shut eye. And when I dream I don't just dream any old dreams. No sir. I dream about being three time Golden Globe winner Jim Carrey.

Because then I would be enough.

It would finally be true.

And I could stop this, this terrible search.

For what I know ultimately won't fulfill me.

But these are important these awards.



#GOLDENGLOBES

Philippians 3:4b-11

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

Philippians 3:4b-11

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith – 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.



Buffet

Soup

Salad



Gospel Response

Are you missing Jesus (the Messiah)?

You have Christ's righteousness, so give up (trying to establish your own)!!