

WELCOME

TO OUR  
HOME



The text 'TO OUR HOME' is written in a cursive, gold-colored font. The word 'TO' is positioned to the left of 'OUR', and 'HOME' is below 'OUR'. A decorative flourish consisting of three parallel lines curves from the bottom of 'TO' towards the bottom of 'HOME'. Green leafy branches are embroidered on the left and right sides of the text.

**REJECTED**

*[Faint, illegible text from the background document, including words like "RECEIVED" and "OFFICE"]*

## John 1:10-13

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — <sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.



# Ways to Respond to The Savior, Jesus Christ

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## ACCEPTANCE

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REJECTION

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(I need a Savior)

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# Ways to Respond to The Savior, Jesus Christ

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(I need a Savior)

REJECTION

(I don't need one, as ultimately,  
I am my own Savior)

Biblically speaking, righteousness is about being in right standing with God – vs. self-righteousness, recognized as giving final authority for one’s decisions not to God but to one’s self. So self-righteousness becomes, paradoxically, a kind of self-trusting sacrilege: The person isn’t serving God’s will but profaning God by serving, or taking final direction from, themselves.”

**Psychology Today**

Leon F Seltzer PhD, Righteous vs. Self-Righteous

<<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/evolution-the-self/202101/righteous-vs-self-righteous>>

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I live a life of self-satisfaction

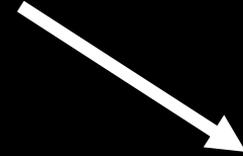
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# Romans



DID GOD'S  
PLAN FAIL?  
CHAPTERS 9-11

## Romans 9:1-5

<sup>1</sup>I am speaking the truth in Christ – I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit – <sup>2</sup>that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup>They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. <sup>5</sup>To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

**Shock**

Initial shock at hearing the bad news

**Denial**

Trying to avoid the inevitable

**Anger**

Outpouring the bottle-up emotion

**Bargaining**

Looking for a way out

**Depression**

Final realization of the inevitable

**Testing**

Seeking realistic solution

**Acceptance**

Finding way to keep going

## Romans 9:6-8

**6But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,** <sup>7</sup>and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” <sup>8</sup>This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.

# What differentiates the two groups?

## Group 1

- Biological/Ethnic/Lineal/Religious descendants
- Deemed not “children of Abraham” despite being his physical offspring
- Deemed “children of the flesh” and not “children of God”

## Group 2

- B/E/L/R & Spiritual descendants
- Deemed “children of Abraham” as physical & spiritual offspring
- Deemed “children of the promise” and so counted as Abe’s legit offspring and legit “children of God”

## Romans 9:30-33

<sup>30</sup>What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; <sup>31</sup>but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. <sup>32</sup>Why?

Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, <sup>33</sup>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.”

## Romans 10:1-4

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup>For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. <sup>3</sup>For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. <sup>4</sup>For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

## τέλος, telos

- ① a point of time marking the end of a duration, *end, termination, cessation*
- ② the last part of a process, *close, conclusion*
- ③ the goal toward which a movement is being directed, *end, goal, outcome*

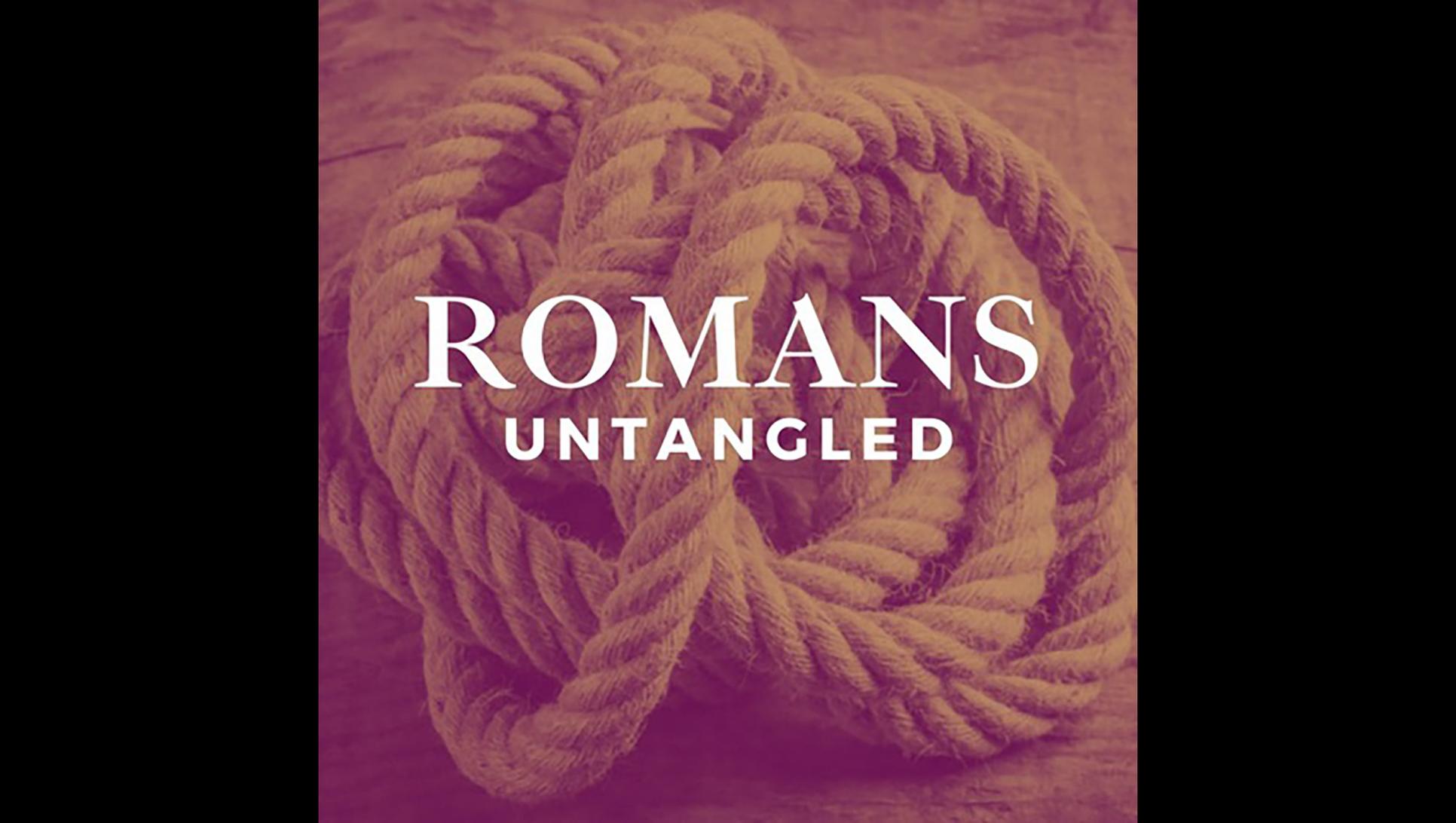
The analogy of a race course (which many scholars think *telos* is meant to convey) is helpful: the finish line is both the “termination” of the race (the race is over when it is reached) and the “goal” of the race (the race is run for the sake of reaching the finish line). Likewise, we suggest, Paul is implying that Christ is the “end” of the law (he brings its era to a close) and its “goal” (he is what the law anticipated and pointed toward). The English word “end” perfectly captures this nuance.

## Romans 10:5-13

<sup>5</sup>For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, “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 that we proclaim);

## Romans 10:5-13

<sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”



**ROMANS**  
**UNTANGLED**

A dark silhouette of a lightbulb is centered on a teal background. The text 'WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?' is written in white, brush-stroke style capital letters across the lightbulb's shape.

WHAT'S  
THE BIG  
IDEA?

Central to the Reformers' (especially Luther's) teaching about salvation was their distinction between "law" and "gospel." "Law" is whatever God commands us to do; "gospel" is what God in his grace gives to us. The Reformers uniformly insisted that human depravity made it impossible for a person to be saved by doing what God commands; only by humbly accepting, in faith, the good news of God's work on our behalf could a person be saved. This theological law/gospel antithesis is at the heart of this paragraph, as Paul contrasts the righteousness that is based on doing the law (v. 5) with the righteousness that is based on faith (vv. 6-13).

~ Douglas J. Moo, *The Letter to the Romans*, ed. Ned B. Stonehouse et al., Second Edition., The New International Commentary on the New Testament (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2018), 662.



# The righteousness based on law

## Romans 10:5

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# The righteousness based on law

## Galatians 3:10-14

<sup>10</sup>All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” <sup>11</sup>Clearly no one is justified before God by the law, because, “The righteous will live by faith.” <sup>12</sup>The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, “The man who does these things will live by them.” <sup>13</sup>Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.” <sup>14</sup>He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.



# The righteousness based on faith

## Romans 10:6-8

<sup>5</sup>For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, “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 that we proclaim);

# The righteousness based on faith

## Deuteronomy 30:11-18

<sup>11</sup>“For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. <sup>12</sup>It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ <sup>13</sup>Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ <sup>14</sup>But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

# The righteousness based on faith

## Deuteronomy 30:11-18

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.

<sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your

God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them,

<sup>18</sup>I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish.

# Paul's "twist" to the story

## Deuteronomy 30:14 (TiPCFGCTTGOGRTOTV\*)

<sup>14</sup>But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you ~~can do it~~ realize there is no possible way you can do it (Rom 1, 2). And yet, the law requires perfection (Rom 3:23). So we are in deep, deep doo-doo (Rom 3:19-20). But wait! Along comes someone who did do the law perfectly (Rom 10:4, Matthew 5:17), and is willing to switch places with us (Rom 3:21ff) through his death and resurrection (Rom 3:25), offering his righteousness (Rom 3:22) to all who simply trust him and not ourselves as Savior (Rom 3:27) and are united to him (Rom 7:1-4). So, the only real question is: Do you receive Him (Rom 5:9-13)?

\*Trike imagining Paul's Christ-Focused, Gospel-Centered To The Glory of God, Rethinking of the Old Testament Version

**Today is the day for EVERYONE to “welcome” Jesus**

**Romans 10:9-13**

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**Revelation 3:20**

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.  
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door,  
I will come in and eat with him,  
and he with me.

**HUNT, William Holman**  
The Light of the World  
1853-54

Oil on canvas on wood, 125 x 60 cm  
Keble College, Oxford

