



# Epistle to The Romans



## Lesson 15, Romans 10 – Israel Present

- 📖 Chapters 9 - 11 HOPE Dispensational
- ‡ - 9 Israel – Past
- ‡ - 10 Israel – Present
- ‡ - 11 Israel – Future

### Chapter 10: God's Sovereign Choice Applied

Many churches today are confused on the subject of Israel. There is a broadly taught heresy that God is finished with Israel because she forfeited her promises when she rejected her Messiah. This sounds good for someone who hasn't or doesn't read their bible. But as we have seen those promises are unconditional. This heresy is easily refuted by Paul's teaching in Romans chapters 9, 10, & 11.

As a matter of fact, Israel is intended to be a lesson from God to all of us, that despite her failures, God has not given up on her. Same for us, God keeps his promises. He does not fail despite our shortcomings or failures.

There are two goals for this lesson:

- 1) Israel has a future—God has a future plan for them.
- 2) Understand the points Paul is making relative to the existence of Israel that affects all of us. In other words, Yes, this section is about Israel but the truths contained therein affect all of us.

### Rabbinical Expectations

One of the problems that Israel had was expectations. Many of the frustrations that Israel had to deal with were because of failed or faulty expectations. An expectation that pervades Judaism to this day is The Two Messiah Theory.



The Jews look through their scriptures and they see two Messiahs. One messiah they call Messiah ben Joseph or the Suffering Servant. The other is Messiah ben David or the Reigning King. The "Two Messiah" view is still prevalent in modern Judaism.

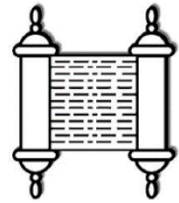
We as Christians see the scriptures differently. We see the same person coming twice, Jesus. He came first as a suffering servant and is coming back as the reigning King.

However, there were a remnant of Jews who were not subscribers of the Two Messiah view and were expecting one Messiah, Jesus, the first time...

**Luke 2:22-35:** Simeon, a man in Jerusalem described as “righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel.” When the infant Jesus was brought into the Temple, he took Him into his arms and blessed God in words which are now famous. Simeon also bestowed his blessing on the wondering father and mother. [Legend has made him the son of Hillel and father of Gamaliel I, but this has no historical basis.]

**Luke 2:36-38:** Anna, the 84-year-old prophetess. [She was of the tribe of Asher, one of the “lost ten tribes”: There are no “ten lost tribes”; during the civil war the faithful from all tribes migrated south and the idol worshipers from all tribes migrated north.]

The discovery of fragments found among the Dead Sea Scrolls indicate that there were believers among the Qumran community: 4Q521 references a single Messianic figure. [BAR Dec 92, Michael Wise and James Tabor.] They apparently believed that the Messiah would come once, “suffer initial defeat” but at a later time would “ultimately triumph in the end of days.” From Daniel’s 70-week prophecy, some there apparently believed that the Messiah was going to come in the era in which they believed. In fact, according to Wise and Tabor, this view was “more the rule than the exception.”



### **The Legacy of Rabbi Yitzhak Kaduri**

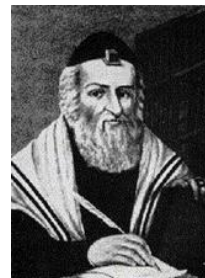
Rabbi Kaduri was one of the most prominent and venerated Rabbis in today’s modern ultra-Orthodox community in Israel. When he died at the remarkable age of 108, over 200,000-300,00 attended his funeral in February 2006.

A few months before he died, he wrote a small note which he requested should remain sealed for a year after his death. We now understand why he wanted it sealed for a year after his death!

### **The Secret Now Revealed**

Rabbi Kaduri wrote in Hebrew a typical acrostic code used by the rabbinical kabbalists (follower of the ancient Jewish mystical tradition of Kabbalah). Part of the authenticated handwritten note said:

*Regarding the Reishei-Tivot of Mashiach:  
Yarim **Ha’am** Veyokhiakh **Shedvaro** Vektorato Omidim*



The initial letters form an acrostic for *Yehoshua*, or *Yeshua!* Basically, his handwritten note said the name of the messiah is Yeshua or Jesus. And, he went on to state that the two messiahs are actually one in the same.

### **Kaduri’s Legacy**

There were 18 points that Kaduri went on to make. Some of these were that the two Messiahs, Messiah Son of Joseph and Messiah Son of David, are one. The rabbi has

seen the Messiah and was “saved” (a term not common in the Jewish vernacular). The spirit of the Lord will rest upon him...Cf. Isaiah 11:2,3.

The Spirit of the Messiah is the spirit of prophecy (Rev 19:10). A person is conceived by the Messiah and contains the spirit of Messiah when he meets the Messiah (the new birth). True believers in Messiah will draw others to the testimony of Messiah and will be called great in the kingdom of heaven (Mt 5:19).

By His words He will gather the outcasts of Israel from all over the world and lift a standard from the nations (Isa 11:12). He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth and with His breath He will slay the wicked (Isa 11:4). “By His word the heavens were made” (Ps 33:6)—an allusion to His divinity, a non-accepted tenet in Judaism.

A quote from Isaiah 53:2 is applied to Him (a chapter not applied to Him by Judaism). Kaduri said that accepting Him is easier for those who do not keep the Torah (Isa 9:1). He quotes from Isaiah 53:1, 8; & Zech 12:10 (These are not seen as Messianic in Judaism).

Needless to say, Kaduri’s statement has really unsettled the ultra-orthodox Jewish community. He had them wait a year to open it because in Jewish tradition, you cannot speak evil about someone who has been dead over a year. So, the current orthodox Jews are in a quandary. Many don’t accept he words but they cannot dare speak against it.

Jesus did not conform to the Jews’ expectations when he arrived, so they rejected Him instead of responding in faith. Kaduri definitely held some views that we would not endorse, but he examples the beginning of some ‘cracks in the wall’ so to speak, in the Jewish community. To prove that God anticipated this, Paul quoted from Isaiah 8:14 and 28:16 (cf. Rom 10:11), combining the two statements to indicate the two contrasting reactions by men to the Stone that God placed in Zion (cf. “Zion” in 11:26).



Having stated the fact of Israel’s stumbling in the preceding verses, Paul now explains the reason for that stumbling. But first, Paul expressed his deep personal spiritual burden for the salvation of the people of Israel.

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verses 1 & 2***

Perhaps with his own experience in mind, Paul wrote this (Cf. Acts 26:11; Gal 1:13-14; Phil 3:4-6). Paul was a Jew who was very zealous but persecuted the church of God. Zeal without knowledge is dangerous, even today. Like many enthusiastic but emotionally (and experience-based) groups today. Sincerity is not enough! Don’t look for signs and wonders because they can be counterfeited by Satan himself. Measure everything by the word of God.

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 3***

Here's the problem. Relative vs. Absolute righteousness...

The NIV and the NASB translation, maybe more, imply that the people of Israel did not understand the God-provided righteousness expounded in this letter (cf. Rom 1:17). That may be true, even though they should have known from their own Scriptures (cf. Gen 15:6; Ps 32:1-2).

But here, preferably, the righteousness in view is the righteousness God requires for people to be accepted by Him, which is God's own infinite righteousness.

They establish their own righteousness, but what does our own righteousness look like viewed by God? \_\_\_\_\_ "filthy rags" (Isa 64:6).

Remember the Pharisees viewed themselves as very righteous, Jesus referred to them as "Whitewashed tombs..."

There but for the grace of God go I.

#### **Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 4**

Looking at the Greek Paul says here that Christ is the designed end, or goal, the Object to which the Law pointed (Gal 3:24). What does that mean for us today? Who are those "who say they are Jews and are not"? (Rev 2 & 3)

#### **The Law**

The Law did not and could not of itself provide righteousness before God for individuals (cf. Rom 3:20; 7:7). But Christ fulfilled the Law (Mt 5:17-18) by keeping it perfectly during His sinless life (cf. Jn 8:46) and then gave His life in payment for the penalty of sin and the broken Law (cf. Eph 2:15; Col 2:13-14). The Law then pointed to Him as the Source of the God-provided righteousness the law could not supply (Gal 3:24).

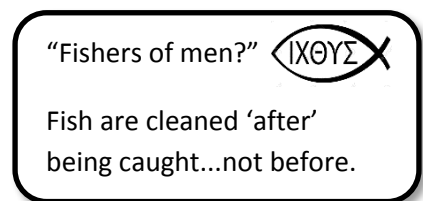
A godly Jew who trusted Yahweh and followed the Levitical system, including the sin offerings and the trespass offerings, would most likely be inclined to respond to Christ by faith and would thus receive God's righteousness (i.e., be justified; Acts 13:39; Rom 3:24; 4:3, 5). He then could meet the requirements of the Law by the indwelling Holy Spirit (8:4). Conversely, a Jew who sought by works to establish his own righteousness would not recognize Christ as "the end of the Law" and would "stumble over" Him.

#### **Salvation by Faith Taught by Moses**

Paul is going to make the case that Salvation by Faith was taught by Moses.

#### **Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 5**

Quoting, Leviticus 18:5: *Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I am the LORD.*



If a Jew were to receive righteousness by keeping the demands of the Law, that would be human achievement; it would not be from God. However, a Jew would need to keep the entire Law perfectly all his life—an impossible task (James 2:10).

Now Paul quotes Moses in support of his righteousness-by-faith position centered in Christ as “the end of the Law” and the means by which righteousness is available for everyone who believes. (The quotes in Romans 10:6-8 are taken somewhat freely from Deuteronomy 30:12-14 with clauses quoted here and there.)

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verses 6 & 7 & 8***

The answer to Paul’s question in verse 7 is that, you couldn’t; but Christ did!

These quotes from Deuteronomy were part of Moses’ charge to the generation of Israel about to enter the land of Canaan. This exhortation was the conclusion of Moses’ prophetic description of God’s dealing with Israel. Blessing was promised for faith and obedience, and chastisement would result from rejection and disobedience.

If Israel forsook God, Moses said, she would face worldwide dispersion and affliction. When the people then finally do turn to God in faith, He will restore them to blessing, prosperity, and prominence among the nations (Deut 30:1-10).

The point of Moses’ exhortation (Deut 30:11) is that the generation to whom he was speaking had the message (30:14: *But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.*)



Since the Israelites in Moses’ day had the message, they did not need to ask that it be brought down from heaven or that someone “cross the sea to get it” (Deut 30:13). Instead, the word (Moses’ instructions) was “nigh” (near) them (Deut 30:14). In effect, Paul indicated that the same truth applied to his generation, with the added fact that Christ had come in the flesh (Jn 1:14) and had been resurrected.

Therefore there was no need for anyone to ask “to bring Christ down” (in His Incarnation) or “to bring Christ up from the dead.” He had already come and had been resurrected. The message of righteousness by faith in Paul’s day was “near” his readers (available to them) and this was “the word” (r`h/ma rhema, “saying”) of faith he was proclaiming. (Rhema, “the spoken word” is also used in Eph 5:26; 6:17; 1 Pet 1:25.)

### **Public Profession**

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verses 9 & 10***

Confessing with the mouth that Jesus is Lord is mentioned first to conform to the order of the quotation from Deut 30:14 in Romans 10:8. The confession is an acknowledgment that God has been incarnated in Jesus (cf. v. 6), that Jesus Christ is God. This is why we make a public profession of faith...

All the supposed Christians cults Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses, etc.... all deny the deity of Jesus Christ.

Also essential is heart-faith that God raised Him from the dead (cf. v. 7). The result is salvation.

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 11***

#### **Whosoever**

Paul then (v. 11) supported his position by re quoting part of Isa 28:16 (cf. Rom 9:33), adding the Greek word translated whosoever, into the quote. God responds with the gift of provided righteousness to each individual who believes.

#### **Everyone Equal Under Christ**

Faith in Christ eliminates the distinction between Jew and Gentile (vv.12-15).

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 12***

There is a distinction later in Revelation from Chapter 4 onwards (7, 14, et al); thus, it is after the present era. (The “church” does not appear on earth after Revelation Chapter 3.) [More in Romans 11...]

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 13***

This conclusion is also supported by a quotation from Joel 2:32: *And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.*

To “call on” the Lord means to pray in faith for salvation. (On the significance of the “name,” cf. Acts 3:16.) Now a logical sequence of questions, each building on the key verb from the preceding question:

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 14***

“Preach,” means “to be a herald, to announce,” it is not limited to proclamation from a pulpit! Some of the most effective preaching occurs on street corners, bible studies, in person, etc...

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 15***

Paul quotes from Isa 52:7. In Isaiah 52:7 the messenger announced to Judah that God had ended their Exile in Babylon (cf. Isa 40:9-11). But Paul applied Isaiah 52:7 to the Jews of his day to whom the gospel was being given.

## **Israel's Rejection (Rom 10:16-21)**

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 16***

“Obeyed: means to listen; to harken; to harken to a command; thus, to obey, be obedient to, submit to.

Paul is quoting the opening of Isaiah 53. He is also giving them a lesson in prophecy. Isaiah prophesies Israel's rejection! Daniel even prophesied the Messiah's death (Dan 9:26)! This failure of the Jews to respond to the good news was true in Jesus' days on earth (Jn 12:37-41) and in Paul's day as well.

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 17***

Audio, not video? With CD-ROM's and MP3 players, audio tutoring is even more effective...

The Portal of God is the ear: “He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit says...” (often with a “still, small voice”). The Portal of Satan is the eye: “Eve saw the fruit...” The eye is the portal of the world.

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 18***

Some might insist that the Jews were not given adequate opportunity to hear the message. He then quoted Psalm 19:4, concerning God's general revelation in the cosmic heavens (cf. Rom 1:18-20). However, this psalm also discusses God's special revelation in the Old Testament (Ps 19:7- 11). Paul's answer is that Israel had ample opportunity, by general and special revelation, to respond to God. Certainly she heard.

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 19***

With these verses the argument takes a turn: the apostle anticipates another objection. Someone might argue, “Yes, Israel heard but she did not understand that God purposed to offer righteousness by faith to all mankind, including Gentiles.”

His answer this time was from two Old Testament quotations, one as early as Moses:

*They have moved me to jealousy with that which is not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with those which are not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation. Deuteronomy 32:21*

And the second by Isaiah (seen in next verse):

### ***Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 20***

*I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name. Isaiah 65:1*

Both Old Testament leaders wrote about God’s turning to the Gentiles, whom the Jews thought had no understanding (avsu,netoj’ asunetos, lacking understanding; senseless; cf. Rom 1:21,31).

**Read Romans Chapter 10, Verse 21**

And yet concerning Israel, God has been gracious in spite of her disobedience (a quotation of Isa 65:2): I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts...

God has not withheld salvation from Jews; He has held out His hands, imploring them to return to Him. Israel’s continuing rebellious and unbelieving disobedience was judged by God’s turning to the Gentiles (Rom 10:20; cf. Acts 8:1-8, 10). Israel’s “Diaspora” was predicted in the Torah: Deut 28:64-67; et al.

**Where Does Israel Begin?**

- The “Seed of the Woman” announced Gen 3:15
  - The summary of this Woman Rev 12
- The call of Abraham Gen 12
- The birth of the Nation: The Exodus Ex 4:22

**Next Session**

A Review of Israel’s History to Today.

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**Bible People Pairs**



Try to untangle well-known Bible pairs of people in this unusual Bible word game. Two names have been woven together in each line. Can you separate them? You do not need to change the order of any of the letters.

MOAASREONS	_____	ISISHAMAAECL	_____
PARIQUISCILLALA	_____	RACLEHEALH	_____
MAMARRTYHA	_____	CJOASLHEUBA	_____
SANAPAPNHIIRAAS	_____		

Bible People Pairs: Moses & Aaron, Aquila & Priscilla, Mary & Martha, Ananias & Sapphira, Isaac & Ishmael, Rachel & Leah, Joshua & Caleb