


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.


Q1. Over this next week, would you try to memorize Romans 10:9 (↓) from the previous lesson?

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Romans 10:9 [NIV-1984]

⁹ That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

^{14a} How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? ^{14b} And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? ^{14c} And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?


Q2. Who is “they”? (What people-group?)

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Q3. Since Jesus ministered, primarily, to His Jewish brothers and sisters, how can verse 14^b be true? Didn’t all Jews hear His message of salvation during His ministry?

Yes? } Why?
No? }

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 Verse 14^b: “[T]he apostle speaks here chiefly, if not only, of believing in Christ, and therefore his words are . . . consistent with what he advances [in] Romans 1:19-20 concerning the existence and perfections of God being made known to all mankind by the works of creation.

“Some way or other the divine revelation concerning Christ must be made known to us, before we can understand and believe it. In hearing is included reading, which is tantamount to hearing, and by which many are brought to believe, John 20:31 (*These things are written that you may believe*). But hearing only is mentioned as the more ordinary and natural way of receiving information.” [©about 1800, *Commentary of the Old and New Testaments* by Joseph Benson. Text Courtesy of BibleSupport.com. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/romans/10-14.htm>]

We must remember that reading was an aristocratic endeavor because the scrolls of the time were expensive to manually duplicate and were, therefore, rare. Additionally, formal education was exclusive to the higher classes of society (i.e., wealthier).

Lesson 17: Romans 10:14-21

Matthew 28:18 [NIV-1984] [The Great Commission]

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

¹⁵ And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" [Isaiah 52:7]

Q4. Are all Believers "sent"?

Q5. [Personal] Are you sent? How "beautiful" are your feet?

Ephesians 6:13 [NIV-1984]


¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

Matthew 10:14 [NIV-1984]

[Jesus taught His disciples,] "If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that home or town."


Lesson 17: Romans 10:14-21

Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

16 But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" [Isaiah 53:1]

Q6. When we speak to someone about Jesus, we want our words to have an impact upon that person . . . and we fear the potential of ridicule and rejection. Was Paul always successful when he witnessed to others?

 We can infer from the 2nd Corinthians (↓) passage that Paul's audiences did not always embrace his message. As Jesus foretold about Paul/Saul as recorded in Acts 9:16 (*For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name*), Paul truly suffered at times for delivering the Gospel message of salvation. So many missionaries would have given up; but not Paul. He was an on-fire ambassador/herald for the Lord Christ Jesus! Paul persevered and willingly died for his belief in the saving grace of Christ Jesus our LORD, our Savior, our Redeemer, The Son of God, The Messiah!

2 Corinthians 11:21^b-28 [NIV-1984]

^{21b} What anyone else dares to boast about — I am speaking as a fool — I also dare to boast about. ²² Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham's descendants? So am I. ²³ Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶ I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. ²⁷ I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. ²⁸ Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

Q7. What is the "message"?

Lesson 17: Romans 10:14-21

Q8. What is the “word of Christ”?

Q9. If we are God’s hands, feet, and voice to the unbeliever, what single trait or attitude does God want us to demonstrate? (Hint: C _ _ _ _ _)

Luke 12:11-12 [International Children’s Bible (ICB)]


¹¹ “When men bring you into the synagogues before the leaders and other important men, don’t worry about how to defend yourself or what to say. ¹² At that time the Holy Spirit will teach you what you must say.”

Q10. When we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to unbelievers, does God’s Word tell us that we must be eloquent, because a person’s salvation depends exclusively upon the words we share? Or are we to be faithful, courageous, and trusting in the LORD as we share and converse?

Eloquent? Yes? No? Why?

Faithful, etc? Yes? No? Why?

Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

¹⁸ But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did: "Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world." [Psalm 19:4]

Q11. Again, to whom is Paul referring? (Hint: what people-group was entrusted with the Word of God in the Old Testament?)

Q12. Within the context of these verses of Romans 10, what did Paul mean through the words of Psalm 19:4: “voice has gone out into all the earth” and “words to the ends of the world”?

Lesson 17: Romans 10:14-21

Q13. What do you think God wanted Israel to do through the Law, the sacrifices, the temple, the religious observances/holidays, the Covenant, the Ark of the Covenant, and the Pentateuch? [1 Samuel 8:7 (↓) provides a hint.]

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1 Samuel 8:7 [International Children's Bible (ICB)]

The Lord told Samuel, "Listen to whatever the people say to you. They have not rejected you. They have rejected me from being their king."


Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

¹⁹ Again I ask: Did Israel not understand? First, Moses says, "I will make you envious by those who are not a nation; I will make you angry by a nation that has no understanding." [Deuteronomy 32:21]

Q14. Moses spoke with God and in this verse is repeating God's Word. To whom is Moses referring, "those who are not a nation"?

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 *those who are not a nation . . . a [foolish] nation that has no understanding:* "Terms used by the Jews of their Gentile neighbours. They were 'no people', because they did not stand in the same recognised relation to God. They were 'a foolish nation', because they had not received the same special revelation, but, on the contrary, worshipped [idols, posts/poles,] and stones." [©about 1880, *Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers*, edited by Charles J. Ellicott. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/romans/10-19.htm>]


Q15. In the last phrase, Moses writes, "a nation that has no understanding". To what "understanding" is Moses referring?

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Lesson 17: Romans 10:14-21

Q16. Based upon your knowledge of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament), what “Did Israel [truly] not understand”?

 **Did Israel not understand?:** “Is it not recorded in their books, etc. that they had full opportunity to be acquainted with this truth? This question is an emphatic way of affirming that they did know. But Paul does not here state what it was that they knew. That is to be gathered from what he proceeds to say. From that it appears that he referred to the fact that the gospel was to be preached to the Gentiles, and that the Jews were to be cast off. This doctrine followed from what he had already maintained in Romans 10:12-13, that there was no difference in regard to the terms of salvation, and that the Jew had no particular privileges. If so, then the barrier was broken down; and if the Jews did not believe in Jesus Christ, they must be rejected. Against this was the objection in Romans 10:14-15, that they could not believe; that they had not heard; and that a preacher had not been sent to them. If, now, the apostle could show that it was an ancient doctrine of the Jewish prophets that the Gentiles should believe, and that the Jews would not believe, the whole force of the objection would vanish. Accordingly, he proceeds to show that this doctrine was distinctly taught in the Old Testament.” [©1834, *Notes on the Bible* by Albert Barnes. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/romans/10-19.htm>]


Q17. Why might Israel be envious or angry?

²⁰ And Isaiah boldly says, "I was found by those who did not seek me; I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me." [Isaiah 65:1]

Q18. To whom was Isaiah referring when he mentioned “those who did not seek me”? “Those who did not ask for me”?

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Day 6

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

²¹ But concerning Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people." [Isaiah 65:2]

Q19. What does the phrase "I have held out my hands" imply?

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Q20. Do we know why God chose to have a special relationship with Israel?

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Exodus 6:2:7 [NIV-1984]

² God also said to Moses, "I am the Lord. ³ I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name the Lord I did not make myself known to them. ⁴ I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, where they lived as aliens. ⁵ Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are enslaving, and I have remembered my covenant.

⁶ "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. ⁷ I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.

Q21. Throughout history do you think that Israel was more (or less) "disobedient and obstinate" than other nations?

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Q22. Are Believers in Jesus Christ to be known by their obedience? And their good works? Their kindness? Their mercy? Their compassion?

Yes? } Why?
No? }

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Lesson 17: Romans 10:14-21

Q23. [Personal] Something to think about: Are you “disobedient and obstinate” like the Jews? If yes, how can you and I become better Christians?

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