

At the start of the Reformation of the Church in Scotland in 1557, John Knox wrote to his congregation before going into exile and said,

“You are bishops and kings; your wife, children, servants, and family are your bishopric and charge. Of you it shall be required how carefully and diligently you have instructed them in God’s true knowledge . . .

And therefore I say, you must make them partakers in, exhorting, and in making common prayers, which I would in every house were used once a day at least.”

Let’s Worship God

17th-22nd June 2013
Romans



Let's Worship God is a ministry of



Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church

airdrierpcs.org, 01236 620107
Part of the RFCS - rpcscotland.org

Family worship, a joy to be experienced every day!



Mon.
17th June

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:11

reading Romans 9:30-33 - Faith Not Works

notes Paul now comes to deal with the true reason why the Gentiles are received and the Jews are rejected. There is a difference in the way they seek God which has a different result, though it is still the free grace of God that causes one to seek differently from the other.

The Gentiles have no real awareness of their own sin. They don't feel the danger they are in, and they see no real need to be saved. There is nothing in them that deserves God's grace. But they receive righteousness nevertheless. How? By faith; not by becoming Jewish citizens and submitting to the ceremonial law, but by embracing Christ, and believing in Christ, and submitting to the gospel.

But the Jews, despite talking a lot about holiness, despite believing themselves to be the people of God, despite following the ceremonies and laws, fall short of acceptance with God. They have no righteousness. Why? Because they follow the wrong means to the wrong end. They seek righteousness, but not in the right way, not in the humbling way, not in the appointed way. Not by faith, not by depending on the righteousness of Christ, and submitting to the terms of the gospel, which are the very life and purpose of the law. But they try by keeping the law to be considered righteous. They think their works will save them. This is the stumbling stone at which they stumble. They are so sure that their obedience will save them and make them right before God, that they can not accept the righteousness of Christ as their substitute. But still there is a remnant that believes on Christ, and in Him they shall not be ashamed. Their hopes and expectations of being made right with God, of being justified through Christ, will not be disappointed like those who are trusting in their good works to save them.

questions 1. How were the Gentiles saved?

2. What did the Jewish unbelievers think would save them?

praise Ps. 51B:7-12

- pray**
1. Give thanks that Christ is righteous for us.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 3. Pray for family matters.



Sat.
22nd June

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn

More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:11

reading Romans 10:16-21 - Faith By Hearing

notes Paul brings up the point that some who have heard the gospel have not believed as shown by their disobedience. Notice how he links believing with obeying. The gospel is not something you only know in your head, it's meant to change your life. If it doesn't, then you should be asking whether you really believe it.

Verse 17 drives home the point that the preaching of the Word is the main means that God uses to save men and women. Though many that hear do not believe, yet those that believe have first heard. Faith comes by hearing. The beginning, progress, and strength of faith is by hearing. The Word of God is called the word of faith because it nourishes our faith. God gives faith, but He uses His Word, not the words of men, as the tool.

Those that don't believe the gospel after hearing it are without excuse. The Gentiles have heard the gospel. The Jews have heard it too. In fact the gospel was offered to them first. They refused it and then became jealous when they saw the Gentiles accepting it. Like the older brother in the parable of the prodigal son, they envied the reception of the prodigal Gentiles upon their repentance.

God is often found by those who are not looking for Him. His grace is His own to give or withhold as He wishes. He sent the gospel to the Gentiles when they had no thought of God. But is this not the case with ourselves? God loved us before we ever loved Him. But though God offered life and salvation to the Jews again and again, they did not want it.

questions 1. How should the gospel affect our life?

2. How do we grow in our faith?

praise Ps. 55:1-6

- pray**
1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 3. Pray for family matters.



Fri.
21st June

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
More than that, we also
rejoice in God through our
Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now
received reconciliation.
Romans 5:11

reading Romans 10:12-15 - Preaching

notes God does not save any or reject any because they are Jews or Gentiles, but accepts both upon gospel terms. There is no difference. There is not one God to the Jews who is more kind, and another to the Gentiles who is less kind; but He is the same to all - good and abundantly generous to all who call upon Him. The promise is the same to all - everyone who calls upon Him. Calling upon God implies an understanding of our dependence upon Him, a dedication of ourselves to Him, and a believing hope that He will save us. Those who call upon God in this way will be saved.

The Jews are angry at Paul for preaching to the Gentiles, but Paul shows how necessary it is. Unless the Gentiles believe that Christ is God, they will not call upon Him in prayer, for why would they? The grace of faith is absolutely necessary to prayer. He that comes to God by prayer must believe. They cannot believe in Him of whom they have not heard. Some way or other the gospel must be made known to us, before we can receive it and believe it. They cannot hear without a preacher. Somebody must tell them what they are to believe. These verses emphasise that the preaching of the Word is the primary means that God uses to bring men and women to faith in Him. They cannot preach unless they are sent. The Church is to send men out, men who have been raised up by God, whose desires and abilities have been tested, to preach Christ crucified.

We should rejoice when the gospel is preached because it shows the way of salvation. It is the gospel of peace, the news of reconciliation between God and man. The work of ministers is to preach this gospel, and we should be so thankful to them for it. Those that welcome the message cannot but love the messengers.

questions
1. What is the promise God makes here?
2. Why is preaching necessary?

praise pray
Ps. 54:all
1. Give thanks for your minister.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Tue.
18th June

Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
More than that, we also
rejoice in God through our
Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now
received reconciliation.
Romans 5:11

reading Romans 10:1-3 - A Righteousness Of Their Own

notes Paul wishes that the Jews might be saved - both from the destruction that God will soon bring upon them via the Romans, but even more from the eternal wrath hanging over their heads. Paul wants them to be saved, and though he preaches against them, he prays for them. He describes this as his heart desire and prayer. This isn't just some off-hand comment. Paul's strong and sincere desire is driving him to pray, to bring that desire to God. Paul knows that wishing and wanting are not the same thing as praying.

The unbelieving Jews are the most bitter enemies Paul has in the world, and yet he speaks as well of them as he can. Paul says that the Jews have a zeal for God. Their opposition to the gospel comes from their respect of the law which they know comes from God. But it is a blind, misguided zeal, not according to knowledge. Yes, God gave them the law for which they are so jealous, but they should have known that the law pointed to the Messiah and is fulfilled in Him. Jesus proves Himself to be the Son of God, gives convincing evidence that He is the Messiah, yet they close their eyes against this. They do not submit themselves to the righteousness of God. They do not accept justification by faith in Christ, which is the heart of the gospel. They are ignorant of God's righteousness. They do not understand, and believe, and consider the strict justice of God, in hating and punishing sin, and demanding satisfaction. If they had, they would never think that they can satisfy God's justice by their own works. They think they can come up with a righteousness of their own through good deeds, ceremonies, and sacrifices. They don't want to be beholden to Christ, and so they depend upon their own performance as sufficient righteousness with which to appear before God.

questions
1. What drives Paul's prayers?
2. What were the Jews relying on for their own righteousness?

praise pray
Ps. 51B:13-16
1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
More than that, we also
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Romans 5:11

reading Romans 10:4-7 - The End of the Law

notes Paul is showing the foolishness of trying to earn your righteousness by keeping the law when Christ has come and brought everlasting righteousness. The end of the law, the purpose of the law is to lead people to Christ. The moral law shows our sinfulness, the ceremonial law shows how that will be dealt with, but Christ is the end of both. The law is to direct people to Christ and His righteousness. The sacrifices, offerings, and purifications, point to Christ. Their inability to take away sin demonstrates the need of a sacrifice that will permanently take away sin. The law is for man to perfectly obey and so be righteous before God. This is impossible because of the power of sin and its corrupting effect on our lives. But Christ has done what we can not do. The law is not destroyed, nor the intention of the lawgiver frustrated, but, full satisfaction being made by the life and death of Christ, the end is achieved, and those who believe are justified and righteous before God.

What is the righteousness of the law? Though the law directs us to a better and more effective righteousness in Christ, yet in itself, separate from Christ and the gospel (as the unbelieving Jews separated it), the only righteousness in the law sufficient to justify a man is that of perfect obedience. In other words, if you are counting on keeping the law to make you right with God, you will need to be perfect and sinless throughout your entire life. How foolish of the Jews to stick to this way of salvation that is so hard and impossible when there is a new and living way.

What is the righteousness of faith? It is not hard or difficult. We do not need to go to heaven or down to the deep for it. Salvation is not at a vast distance from us, and we will look more at this tomorrow.

- questions**
1. What is the purpose of the law?
 2. What is the only other way to be righteous apart from Christ?

- praise pray** Ps. 52:all
1. Give thanks for the law.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 - 3 Pray for family matters.



Let's Worship God

Verse To Learn
More than that, we also
rejoice in God through our
Lord Jesus Christ,
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Romans 5:11

reading Romans 10:6-11 - Belief and Confession

notes When we speak of looking upon Christ, and receiving Christ, and feeding upon Christ, it is not Christ in heaven, nor Christ in the deep, that we mean; but Christ in the promise, Christ shown to us, and offered, in the Word. And this Word is near to us; there is no difficulty in understanding, believing, and owning it. All that is to be done for us is already done. Christ has come down from heaven, we don t need to go and fetch Him. There is nothing now to be done but for us to respond with out heart and our mouth to the gospel, the word of life, the righteousness of faith.

It is promised to us that we shall be saved - saved from guilt and wrath, an eternal salvation of which Christ is the author. There are two conditions. You must confess the Lord Jesus - openly admitting to the world you have a relationship and a dependence on Him, as your Saviour and your Lord, and you must believe in your heart that Christ is who He says He is, the Son of God, who died for sins, and rose again from the dead as proof that God s justice was satisfied.

There must first be faith in the heart before there can be an acceptable confession with the mouth. It is not believing if it is not done with the heart. And it is through that belief, that trusting in what Christ has done as our Substitute, that we are declared righteous, that we are justified before God. Not for any goodness in ourselves, but only because of the righteousness of Christ credited to us. When we believe in our heart that Jesus is who He says He is, and we trust that He is the one that can save us, then we confess that with our mouth, asking Him to do what He has promised to do and save us. We will never be ashamed or have reason to regret putting our hope in Christ.

- questions**
1. What must we believe?
 2. What must we confess?

- praise pray** Ps. 53:all
1. Give thanks for what Christ has done for you.
 2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
 - 3 Pray for family matters.