

## The Romans Road To Salvation!

### I. **Announce:** *Larry promo school video.*

- A. Calvary Murrieta Christian School, Promo:
- B. Baptism Aug 26th: Flyer on screen & in info booth.

### II. **Slide#1 Intro:**

- A. During the presidency of **Andrew Jackson**, **George Wilson**, a postal clerk, robbed a federal payroll from a train and in the process killed a guard. The court convicted him and sentenced him to hang. Because of public sentiment against capital punishment, however, a movement began to secure a presidential pardon for Wilson (first offense), and eventually Jackson intervened with a pardon. **Amazingly, Wilson refused it.** Since this had never happened before, the Supreme Court was asked to rule on whether someone could indeed refuse a presidential pardon. Chief Justice John Marshall handed down the court's decision: "A pardon is a parchment whose only value must be determined by **the receiver** of the pardon. It has no value apart from that which the **receiver** gives to it. George Wilson has refused to accept the pardon. We cannot conceive why he would do so, but he has. Therefore, **George Wilson must die.**"
  - 1. **George Wilson, as punishment for his crime, was hanged. Pardon, declared the Supreme Court, must not only be granted, it must be accepted.**

- B. **Ch.9** Israel's Past Election; **Ch.10** Israel's Present Rejection; **Ch.11** Israel's Future Reception.
- C. **Title:** *The Roman's Road To Salvation!*
- D. **Outline:** *Salvations...Prayer; Source; Availability; Reception; Scope; Presentation; Reception.*

### III. **Slide#2 PRAYER! (1-3)**

- A. **The Prayer!** (1): Paul prays for Israel's salvation.
  - 1. Evangelism is our **privilege** & Gods **burden**, don't get those mixed up.
    - a) Preach as Richard Baxter used to say, "as a dying man to dying men".
- B. **The Problem!** (2,3): Israel possesses...**Zeal without knowledge**.
  - 1. "**Zeal without knowledge is a runaway horse.**" [we call this person a religious fanatic]
    - a) The definition of a fanatic: "A fanatic is a person who, having lost sight of his goal, redoubles his effort to get there."
  - 2. In his book, *The Prodigal God*, Timothy Keller writes, "...religious people commonly live very moral lives, but their goal is to get leverage over God, to control him, to put him in a position where they think He owes them. Therefore, despite all their ethical fastidiousness and piety, they are actually rebelling against his authority."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Prodigal God, P. 38 Illustration by Jim L. Wilson

### C. Works without faith! (3b)

1. They didn't understand the kind of righteousness God wanted **or** how to get it.
2. Caution on trying to establish your **own** righteousness – it can happen here at CM!
  - a) You could be proud of yourself because you're a **Double-Dipper** (you go to church twice a week!)

## IV. Slide#3 SOURCE! (4,5)

### A. Righteousness is found in Christ (4)

### B. (4) Christ is the end of the law – in the sense of its **aim** rather than its **termination**.<sup>2</sup>

1. Phillip's Translation, "For Christ means the end of the struggle for righteousness-by-the-law for everyone who believes in Him."
2. Jesus brought an end to our futile attempts to become righteous through law-keeping
3. Sometimes those who seem most religious, the most passionate about keeping all the rules, need the gospel the most & often reject it most fiercely.

### C. Righteousness was foretold by Moses (5) (quotes Lev. 18:5)

## V. Slide#4 AVAILABILITY! (of God's Righteousness) (6-8)

### A. See contrast rt. of Law(5), **vs.** rt. via Faith(6)!

1. **No one but Christ** could make the **Incarnation & Resurrection** happen, **so** no one can construct salvation from their own means, apart from Christ.
2. Righteousness is something **done for us**, not something we do for ourselves.

### B. Negative (6,7) - One need not search the heavens or descend into the deep to find this rt.

### C. Positive (8) - It is, **through** Christ, **as near** as one's **mouth** and **heart**!

1. Moses predicted this back in **Deut.30:12-14**.

### D. (8) **Near you** – Let's distinguish between what is **possible in theory** & realized in **practice**.

1. Christ is **potentially** near you, **but** is only realized in **practice** when you **confess & believe**!
2. "It is as close as a **decision** of the heart & a **declaration** of the mouth!"

## VI. Slide#5,6 RECEPTION! (9,10)

### A. Both one's **heart** and **mouth** are involved.

### B. It is **conceived in the heart** (9b-10a).

1. **Heart** always means the center of our moral being & it includes the intellect, feeling, & will.

<sup>2</sup> Shepherd's Notes; pg.62

2. **i.e. Saving faith dominates our entire being, mind, feelings, & will, & as a consequence, this faith will express itself in confession.**
- C. It is **confirmed by the mouth** (9a,10b).
- D. (9,10) This is one of the most helpful portions of scripture for **pointing the way** of salvation.
  1. **My Story: 1st verse I remember memorizing [Rom10.9] lic. plate** (Colima/Whittier Blv)
    - a) But again as we learned last week about God's side in **choosing** a people for Himself...**He also** has arranged **the way** to come to faith, through **hearing the gospel & responding to it.**
- E. **Heart & Mouth** – the beautiful harmony of 2 voices.
  1. It comes down, **not** to “Hoof-n-Mouth”, **not** “Foot-in-Mouth”, **but Heart & Mouth!**
    - a) Notice nothing else is added here in the recipe for salvation (not baptism, serving, tithing, etc)
  2. This belief is not mere **verbal assent** but “**staking one's entire being on this truth.**”
    - a) Spurgeon said, "**We believe everything which the Lord Jesus has taught, but we must go a step further, and trust him. It is not even enough to believe in him, as being the Son of God, and the anointed of the Lord; but we must believe on him...The faith that saves is not believing certain truths, nor even believing that Jesus is a Savior; but it is resting on him, depending on him, lying with all your weight on Christ as the foundation of your hope. Believe that he can save you; believe that he will save you; at any rate leave the whole matter of your salvation with him in unquestioning confidence. Depend upon him without fear as to your present & eternal salvation. This is the faith which saves the soul.**"

## VII. Slide#7 **SCOPE! (11-13)**

- A. It is **Impartial!** (11-12) - It **does not** distinguish between Jews and Gentiles.
- B. He draws on the OT again probably to show this salvation by faith has always been God's plan. It is **nothing new.**
- C. **Illustration:** Let's say you become very ill & it comes time to take your medicine. You ask me to get it for you...& then I take it for you??? [**No!**...Obviously you must take it on your own]
  1. You must seek salvation for yourself. And **repent, & believe, & obey, for yourself.**
- D. Many people **live in** the **Show Me** state, Missouri(a), **but** when it comes to **living in** Christ **it's not** “show me & I'll believe”, **it's** “believe, & I'll show you”!
- E. (12) **There is no distinction between Jew & Greek in sinfulness; and so** there is none between them in **salvation!**
- F. **Slide#8** In Christianity all **men** are equal like all **pennies** are equal.
  1. **Wait!** They have different dates; different letters, from where they were minted. Some are more scarred then the others. Some are brighter & newer then the others.
    - a) Yes, a coin collector may give you more for a rare one, but bring it into any store & its worth 1 cent.

2. Why then are they equal? - because the only value in any of them is that they “*bear the image*”. [did you know they bear the image of Lincoln sitting center in the Memorial?]
    - a) Both **Jew & Gentile** that have come to Christ, both bear Christ's image in their life!
- G. **It is Universal!** (13) - Anyone calling on the name of the Lord will be saved.
- H. (13) **Whoever** – I’m glad it didn’t say, *If Brian Bell calls upon the name of the Lord he shall be saved.*
1. For there are other *Brian Bell’s (3 in our area)* & I wouldn’t be sure He meant me!
    - a) But since He says, “**whoever**” I know I’m in that grouping!

## VIII.Slide#9 PRESENTATION! (14,15)

- A. Paul presents a compelling case for faithful witnessing.
1. Paul shifts from acceptance or rejection **to its delivery**.
- B. One doesn’t just **call** on the name of the Lord - A **messenger** is first needed, he must **proclaim** the Good News. Then, one must **hear**, have **faith**, & then **call** on the name of the Lord!
1. This is the process God has ordained for *scattering the seed of the Gospel*.
  2. This charge is given to the church to take up the task of evangelism **deliberately & passionately!**
- C. **How shall they hear without a preacher?** Conceivably, God could have chosen **any means** for the message of salvation to come, such as **angelic messengers** or **directly working** without a human preacher. **Nevertheless** God's "*normal*" way of bringing people to Jesus Christ is through the preaching of the gospel.
- D. **Slide#10** (15) God’s looking for people with **beautiful feet!** (How are your feet looking?)
1. God’s looking for people w/beautiful feet...to carry the gospel to the lost!
    - a) These **beautiful feet** speak of *activity, motion, and progress*, and those who are **active & moving** in the work of preaching the gospel!
  2. This ought to ignite our hearts for the **unreached people around us & the unreached people groups left in our world!**
    - a) **Honey Bees share** their wonderful find whenever they come across **sweet nectar**. They immediately go tell the other bees w/enthusiasm, w/a buzz, even w/a little dance, a little **Bee Boogie!**
      - (1) **Can’t we do the same with Christ’s sweet nectar?**
      - (2) Ps.119:103 **How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!**
    - b) **Evangelism is...**allowing Christ to so live in & through **us** that who we **are**, what we **do**, & what we **say** **become** the very expression of who **He is**, what He **did**, & what He **said**.
- E. **Oh & one more thing!** Note it is **Glad tidings**, **not sad tidings!** [i.e. it should be joyous news that we are bringing!]

1. Jesus forgives sins, & gives eternal life to all who will turn to Him!

## IX. Slide#11 RECEPTION! (16-21)

- A. (16) Yet, **not all** are going to believe this wonderful message. :(
- B. (17) This is how my faith came. [CCBellflower, I heard it & I owned it!]
1. D.L.Moody said, "I prayed for Faith, and thought that some day Faith would come down and strike me like lightning. But Faith did not seem to come. One day I read in the 10th chapter of Romans, "Now Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." I had **closed** my Bible, and prayed for Faith. I **now opened** my Bible, and began to study, and Faith has been growing ever since."
  - a) "Faith is not a **contract**. Faith is **surrender**."
- C. Slide#12 What did we learn from Paul so far about winning the lost?
1. **Caring!** (1a) – Yearn! *Beg/Beseech! Plead!*
  2. **Praying!** (1b) – The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.
  3. **Sharing!** (17) – They say, **The fire of God in your heart will melt the lead in your feet.**
    - a) Who would you like to share with in your everyday sphere of family, work, or social life? What could you use for a springboard into a discussion about Christ?  
Slide#13(blank) What might pique his/her interest?
    - b) What thought provoking question can you ask them?  
What scripture passage would it be helpful to have memorized?
    - c) Do you have a Christian worldview/perspective on current events? What tough questions can you anticipate from that person that you can do some thinking ahead of time?
    - d) What reading materials, audiobooks, or other resources can you give that person to keep the dialogue going over time? (Don't feel the pressure to **make them pray the prayer** the 1st time you bring up the subject)
    - e) If Salvation is **God's work & not ours**, how does that relieve the pressure for you when sharing the truth about Jesus? :)
      - (1) Oh saints, Keep your ears attentive. Keep your discussions about your faith clear & competent. And, Keep your feet beautiful!!!
- D. **Israel heard & knew!** (18,19)
- E. (18) Israel was responsible for rejecting their Messiah.
- F. (19) Jealousy...more next week in ch.11.
- G. **The Gentiles didn't Seek, yet Found!** (20,21)
- H. Despite Paul's broken heart in vs.1, & God's outstretched hands ...Israel did not believe!
1. **Slide#14 What a picture!** God holding out his hands! (all day)

2. What does it mean when you hold out your hand to someone?

a) Helping someone up; giving them something; grabbing them; to give them a warm hug; an invitation to come to them?

3. Though the Jews **didn't** grab His *nailed scarred hands*, the Gentiles did...& God saved them.

l. **Slide#15** George Wilson, as punishment for his crime, was hanged. *Pardon, declared the Supreme Court, must not only be granted, it must be accepted.*

1. Will you accept it today?

**X. Communion:**

A. Bread

B. Cup

**XI. Announce:**

A. Next Sun: we are having a “send off” for 2 of our missionaries family, Matfeld & Ramos family

1. If you want to send them off with a **card** (&/or a financial gift) we will have 2 baskets available in a tent we are putting up out in front of main office.

2. Finger foods & fellowship after all 3 services next Sunday.