

## THE INTERMISSION

[Jkroberts\\_us@yahoo.com](mailto:Jkroberts_us@yahoo.com)

[www.pacolethillbaptist.org](http://www.pacolethillbaptist.org)

February 25, 2018

Romans 9:1-5, 10:1-13

1. When I was young movie theaters had planned intermissions to give people time to go to the concession stand and stock up on more snacks.
2. The theater owners understood that most people were not going to miss part of the movie to go to the rest room or the concession stand so they planned accordingly.
3. In Romans 9, 10, and 11 Paul pointed out that the Church Age provides both Jews and Gentiles the opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel, but the Church Age did not negate God's covenant promises to the Jewish people.
4. During this present dispensation God has continued to preserve the Jews as a distinct people, and at the conclusion of this divine intermission, His plans and purposes will again become visible and evident.
5. For the purposes of our current study I am not going to take the time to expound in depth on these chapters, but I do want to highlight a few passages that are instructive and applicable to our present situation.
6. Even now we can see evidence of God's continued interest in His Covenant People. See Romans 11:25-36
7. Let us also remember that this present dispensation will not last forever, and that we, like Paul, should be focused on accomplishing what God wants accomplished in and through our lives.

### I. Paul's passion. 9:1-5

A. Paul was a converted Jew who was viewed as an apostate and an enemy by most of his people.

B. In spite of that fact Paul had a deep and abiding burden for the salvation of his people.

1. Their rejection of Christ and their resistance to the Gospel caused Paul great sorrow and unceasing grief.
2. Paul's burden and love for his people was so great that there was no length to which he would not go to see Jews come to Christ—even the loss of his own salvation.

NOTE: Apart from Jesus Christ we see this level of commitment only one other time in Scripture. Ex 32:30-35

On the next day Moses said to the people, "You yourselves have committed a great sin; and now I am going up to the Lord, **perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.**" 31 Then Moses returned to the Lord, and said, "Alas, this people has committed a great sin, and they have made a god of gold for themselves. 32 **"But now, if You will, forgive their sin — and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!"** 33 The Lord said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book. 34 "But go now, lead the people where I told you. Behold, My angel shall go before you;

nevertheless in the day when I punish, I will punish them for their sin." 35 Then the Lord smote the people, because of what they did with the calf which Aaron had made.

C. It grieved Paul that in spite of all their advantages the Jews were blind to the truth.

D. Paul's goal in life was to share the Gospel with as many people as possible knowing that God would save some.

1. Rom 11:11-16

I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous.

12 Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be! 13 But I am speaking to you who are Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle of Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, 14 **if somehow I might move to jealousy my fellow countrymen and save some of them.** 15 For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? 16 If the first piece of dough is holy, the lump is also; and if the root is holy, the branches are too.

2. 1 Cor 9:19-22

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; 21 to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, **so that I may by all means save some.**

E. May we all share and manifest Paul's passion.

## II. Paul's problem. 10:1-4

A. Paul faced a challenge when it came to winning Jews to faith in Christ, just as we face challenges today.

B. Paul wanted to see both Jews and Gentiles come to Christ and prayed accordingly.

C. The Jews however presented a problem because of several factors.

1. Their misguided and misinformed zeal for God was a problem.

2. Their works-based approach to righteousness was a problem.

D. In spite of the clear teaching of God's Word the majority of people in this world embrace a works-based ideology of some sort.

E. The righteousness God requires is not of this world and cannot be earned.

Note Peter's words to Cornelius and those gathered in his home. Acts 10:42-43

"And He (Jesus) ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. 43 "Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives (as a gift) forgiveness of sins."

### **III. Paul's proclamation. 10:5-13**

- A. Those who think they can earn their way to heaven will be judged based on the full extent of the law.
- B. Those who are still looking for a Messiah are looking in vain.
- C. The Messiah had come and the Gospel of Christ was now being preached.
- D. In response to the Gospel:
  - 1. Acknowledge Jesus as Lord.
  - 2. Believe with all your heart that God raised Him from the dead.
  - 3. Believe in and trust in the atoning sacrifice, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ and receive the gift of righteousness.
  - 4. Publicly confirm salvation through a verbal testimony.
- E. Those who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ will not be disappointed, whether Jew or Gentile, for the Lord is abounding in riches for all who call upon Him, and all who call upon Him will be saved.

### **APPLICATION**

- 1. In verses 14-17 Paul pointed out an important progression.
  - a. People must believe in order to call.
  - b. They must hear in order to believe.
  - c. In order to hear there must be a preacher.
  - d. Those who preach must be sent (be given authority).
- 2. We have been sent, and when we do our part God will do His part, and some will be saved.