

## In step with Jesus 179

November 23, 2025

**Key Text: “My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways. (Proverbs 23:26)**

### Introduction

Last week’s lesson from Romans 9:18-33 emphasized God’s supremacy and grace. We learnt that God, who is the potter, has the sole authority to make us into vessels of honour or dishonour. He said He will have mercy on whom He will and have compassion on whom He will. However, this does not suggest that we have no choice. We have both choice and hope because God introduced Himself as a God of mercy and compassion, a God that forgives iniquity, transgression, and sin, a God that keeps His mercies for a thousand generations of those that love and fear Him. (Exodus 34:6) He also declared that He loved the world so much that He gave His only son as a gift to us and whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3: 16). But He also said that He does not clear the guilty. Thus, He is both merciful and just. The conclusion is that God executes His righteous judgement over the wilfully disobedient, but His mercy endures forever towards those that trust in Him. The choice is ours. We can choose to trust God’s mercy, justice and love and receive His grace for loving obedience to His laws. We can also choose to question God’s supremacy, reject His mercy and grace, and kick at His justice. Either way, there will be consequences. My prayer is that we choose God. He is supreme, therefore nothing can harm us when we are under His care, and He is our merciful Father, so we can stand secure in Him.

Today we will start reading Romans chapter 10. Romans 10 to me is the core of the book of Romans. All along, From Romans chapter 1, Paul had been calling us to know and accept God’s gift of Grace and receive salvation by faith in Jesus Christ. In chapter 10 Paul takes us a step further to explain how we receive salvation. Let us read the first few verses of Romans Chapter 10 and see what God will reveal to us about the science of Salvation.

### Romans 10:1-13

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup> For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. <sup>3</sup> For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and

seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. <sup>4</sup>For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. <sup>5</sup>For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

## Reflections

The Jews wanted to do the right thing, and we are much the same as they were. Paul said they had zeal towards God, but their zeal was not according to knowledge. The Jews were focusing on earning salvation through obedience to the law. It was about them, their works, their goodness, and their achievements. Unfortunately, we are not any different. The problem with seeking to obtain righteousness by works of the law is that it separates from the Jesus Christ, the righteousness of God. The works of the law tends only to pride and self-righteousness but the righteousness of God in Christ leads to humility and helps us to be loving and compassionate towards others. The law does not have power to save. It is Jesus that saves. Righteousness by faith is the only thing that saves, but how do we attain this righteousness?

Paul explains we obtain the righteousness that works by faith by believing in our hearts and confessing with our mouths that Jesus is Lord. It is as simple as that. Neither believing nor confessing is enough in itself, we must both believe and confess. But it must start with the heart. When we believe in our hearts that Jesus is Lord, Jesus changes us from inside out and as Jesus changes us, we cannot but confess with our mouths that He is Lord. I invite you to join me as we give our hearts to Jesus today and trust Him to change us inside out. He has done it for others; He will do it for us, then our words and our very lives will be a continual confession that Jesus is Lord.