

**Sermon Series: Romans**

**Sermon Text:** Romans 9:30-10:4

**The human quest for personal righteousness by law keeping terminates in failure. But the Divine gift of God's righteousness culminates in Christ.**

**1) The human quest for personal righteousness by law keeping terminates in failure.**

- a) v. 31 "Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law"—legal righteousness
- b) v. 32a "they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works"—works righteousness
- c) v. 32b "they have stumbled over the stumbling stone"—they tripped over Christ in their pursuit of legal/works righteousness
  - i) "they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge"
  - ii) "being ignorant of the righteousness of God"
  - iii) "seeking to establish their own [righteousness]"
  - iv) "they did not submit to [or, come under] God's righteousness"
- d) **Application:**
  - i) Religious and moral zeal apart from trust in Christ is a strenuous course to destruction.
  - ii) Trust in personal righteousness overestimates self, underestimates the law, and disregards the necessity and sufficiency of Christ.

**2) But the Divine gift of God's righteousness culminates in Christ.**

- a) "Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained [received] it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith"—imputed righteousness
- b) "whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame"—ultimate vindication
- c) "Christ is the end [telos] of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes"—Christ is the goal of the law
  - i) The law's condemnation compels sinners to Christ.
  - ii) Christ is the fulfillment of the demands of the law.
  - iii) Christ is the payment for the penalty of the law.
- d) **Application:**
  - i) Salvation is by grace alone.
  - ii) Salvation is through faith alone.
  - iii) Salvation is in Christ alone.
  - iv) Salvation is to the glory of God alone.