

NOT ALL ROADS LEAD *to* HEAVEN

THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS JEW WHO FOUND JESUS

Romans 1:16-17

November 22, 2015 | DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS

INTRODUCTION: Is it anti-Semitic to say that Jewish people must trust in Christ in order to go to heaven? Before you give the politically correct answer to that question, consider the words and example of the most prominent Jew in the Bible outside of Jesus Himself.

I. The Experience Of The Apostle Paul (Philippians 3:5-6; Acts 9:3-5)

Philippians 3:5-6 “⁵circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.”

Acts 9:3-5 “³And it came about that as he journeyed, he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; ⁴and he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul [Paul’s Jewish name], why are you persecuting Me?’ ⁵And he said, ‘Who art Thou, Lord?’ And He said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.’”

II. The Ministry Of The Apostle Paul

Romans 1:16-17 “¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.’”

2 Corinthians 11:24-25, 27 “²⁴Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. ²⁷I have been in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.”

Romans 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

Isaiah 53:6a “All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way...”

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III. The Teaching Of The Apostle Paul

A. The Necessity of Faith (Romans 1:17)

Romans 1:17 “For in it [the gospel] the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.’”

B. An Illustration of Faith (Romans 3:21-25a, 26b)

Romans 3:21-25a, 26b “²¹ But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; ^{25a} whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. ^{26b} that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.”

Romans 4:5 “But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith [in Christ] is reckoned as righteousness.”

IV. Beyond The Apostle Paul (Hebrews 2:1-3a)

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Hebrews 10:29-31 “²⁹How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰For we know Him who said, ‘VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY.’ And again, ‘THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE.’ ³¹It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

Hebrews 2:1 “For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.”

Hebrews 2:2-3a “²For if the word spoken through angels [a reference to the Mosaic law] proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense, ^{3a}how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?”

Prayer