

THE AMAZING UNFORSEEN AGE | ROMANS 10:11-13

- Verse 11-13
 - The reality of these verses is the blessed truth of this age of Grace.
 - While it was always predicted that the day would come when **Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed**, a quote from Isaiah 28:16 and also spoken of by Jesus in John 3:16, what was *not foreseen* was that there would be a time of **no difference between the Jew and the Greek**.
 - All the millennial kingdom passages show the gentiles as coming to God *through the re-established Kingdom of Israel*, not in spite of the rejection of Israel.
- Verse 12
 - Any attempt to make the Church one of the 12 Tribes of Israel must deal with this passage. In this age, God is not dealing specifically with Israel.

THE CHALLENGE OF THE AGE | ROMANS 10:14-16

- Verse 14 –
 - Belief is the bedrock fundamental (as in v. 9).
 - Believers will call on Him, but non believers will not. And the only pathway to belief is hearing, and the only pathway to hearing is proclamation, and the only pathway to proclamation is sending forth the proclaimer.
 - These two verses are foundational to the missionary vision of the church.
- Verse 16 –
 - Until all the world comes to believe **our report**, the missionary task is unfinished. Note that this verse quotes Isaiah 53:1, which is also spoken of the Jews' lack of belief in John 12:38.
 - **Obedied** - Perhaps *hearkened* would be a better translation, as is done in Acts 12:13. The word ὑπακούω [hypoakuo] means "to be under a hearing," and is typically *obey*. However, that is interpretation and not translation. In context, *they have not all come under the hearing of the Gospel* makes sense.

WHO CAN BELIEVE? | ROMANS 10:17

- This verse is of fundamental importance in soteriology.
- If **faith** (or belief, in v. 9) is the necessary response, then where does this faith come from?
 - The Calvinist teaches that faith is a gift of God given to the elect.
 - Paul teaches that faith is a potential response to hearing the Gospel.
 - In a Pauline position, therefore, within the Gospel itself, all that is required for a person to respond is present. There is nothing lacking, and no doctrine of an *effectual call* needs to be devised.
 - RC Sproul, in opposition, says, "People who are not in Christ are in the flesh, so they lack the ability to do the Lord's will. Since His will for us is that we trust in His promises, unbelievers are incapable in themselves of believing in Christ Jesus for salvation. "
<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/gods-gift-of-faith/>

THE SAD STATE OF UNBELIEVING ISRAEL | ROMANS 10:18-21

- Verses 18-19 –
 - This could be speaking of the general, worldwide population, or, more likely, speaking of the Jewish nation, as seen by the second, rhetorical question (v. 19), **did not Israel know?**
 - Since the context of Romans 9-11 is Israel, it is best to go with Israel as **they**, but Paul argues in Romans 1 that all the world is without excuse, so either is acceptable.

- Verse 18 –
 - This quote of Psalm 19:4 is one of the most intriguing thoughts in Scripture.
 - If the quote is taken out of original context, Paul is saying that proclaimers of the Gospel have gone **unto all the earth**. However, that would contradict his plea for preachers in v. 14.
 - In context of Psalm 19, the **sound** that **went into all the earth** is the message of the stars of the sky.
 - The Jews new of the message in the sky (though they have since forgotten it). Many of their ancient synagogues have a Zodiac on the floor or other places in the place of worship.
- Verse 19-
 - Paul uses Deuteronomy 32:21 to illustrate that the Gentiles are now declaring to the Jews the way of faith. This is proven to be Gentiles in Romans 11:11. By using this Scripture, Paul is telling the Jews that they should not be surprised when God "moves on" because of their stubbornness.
- Verses 20-21-
 - Isaiah was willing to declare the bold word from the Lord: that God would manifest Himself to others if His chosen did not respond.