

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Romans 10:1-4,17.**
- B. JC came that He might redeem lost souls unto God. He has now established His church to carry out that function.
- C. We need to be, as much as possible, soul winners for Jesus.
- D. This morning's lesson deals with some of the statements of attitude the apostle Paul had toward his fellow Israelites, and how we might incorporate them into our lives to be better evangelists.
- E. I believe Paul stressed 4 things in Rom. 10:1-4, 17:
 - 1. A love for those who are lost.
 - 2. A finding of common ground.
 - 3. Pointing people to X, and X alone.
 - 4. Preaching the word of God to instill faith.

I. A LOVE FOR THE LOST.

- A. God has a great love for lost souls--He sent X (Jn. 3:16).
"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."
- B. Christ has a great love for lost souls--He lived and died for us (Lk. 19:10).
"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
- C. Paul had a great love for lost Israel (Rom. 10:1; Ac. 26:28-29).
(Rom 10:1) Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.
(Ac 26:28-29) And Agrippa replied to Paul, "In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian." And Paul said, "I would to God, that whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I am, except for these chains."
- D. As Love will grow in a marriage, love must also grow for lost souls (we love people and hate the sinful things they do).

II. FINDING COMMON GROUND IN WHICH TO WORK.

- A. Paul complimented the Israelites' zeal for God (Rom. 10:1).
Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.
- B. Paul complimented the men of Athens' religious beliefs (Ac. 17:22-23).
And Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. "For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you.
- C. Paul complimented Agrippa for knowing the writings of the prophets (Ac. 26:27).
"King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do."
- D. Let us look for opportunities of common knowledge and teach from there.

III. POINTING PEOPLE TO CHRIST AND CHRIST ALONE.

- A. A righteousness that is built on anything except X, is not righteousness (Rom. 10:3-4).
For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.
- B. Christ is the end of the Law, and is to be preached, not ourselves (Rom. 10:4; 2Cor. 4:5).
(Rom 10:4) For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.
(2Cor 4:5) For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.
- C. We must exalt X, if He is to draw all men to Himself (Jn. 12:32).
"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."
- D. The substance of all things religious belongs to X (Col. 2:17).
things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

IV. PREACHING THE WORD TO INSTILL FAITH.

- A. Only the word of God produces faith, the faith that saves (Rom. 10:17; Heb. 11:6).
(Rom 10:17) So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
(Heb 11:6) And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.
- B. People will not hear the message (the good news) unless we preach it (Rom. 10:14).
How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?
- C. Paul said that when we have the attitude of a soul winner, we shall not only share the gospel message but our lives as well (1Th. 2:8).
Having thus a fond affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.
- D. Handle the word carefully and correctly for it is the dynamite of God--the salvation unto all men (Rom. 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.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. To be a good laborer we must have the attitude of willing to work.
- B. To be good at anything requires a healthy state of mind.
- C. To be a good soul winner means that we will:
 - 1. Have a love for the lost.
 - 2. Find common ground in which to work.
 - 3. Point people to X, and not ourselves.
 - 4. Preach the word of God to instill faith.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.