

The Book of Romans 9:30-33
Key Phrases

- ✓ *Righteousness*: Being in a right standing with God; being _____ and _____ pure. According to the text, righteousness is not earned by human effort but is a gift received through faith in Christ.

- ✓ *Law*: In this context, refers to the Law of Moses in the Old Testament, which contains _____, _____, and _____ rules that the Israelites were expected to obey.

- ✓ *Faith*: A belief and trust in God and Jesus Christ as the source of salvation, accepting the free gift of _____ that is provided rather than relying on one's own effort.

- ✓ *Works*: Actions and deeds, particularly those done to try to earn God's favor through _____ adherence or good _____, rather than a posture of grace through faith.

- ✓ *Stumbling Stone*: Refers to Jesus Christ, who is a source of offense and rejection to those who rely on their own _____ or who misunderstand his true nature and purpose.

- ✓ *Zion*: Symbolically refers to the city of _____, where God is present and where the "stone," (Jesus Christ) is placed. Also, a reference to God's holy people.

- ✓ *Put to Shame*: Experiencing disappointment or a lack of fulfillment, which will never happen to those who trust in _____.

- ✓ *Humbling Stone*: An alternate way of looking at the stumbling stone, in that accepting Christ requires a humility and acknowledgement of our _____ and need for _____.

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the paradox presented in Romans 9:30-10:21 concerning Israel's failure to achieve righteousness despite their pursuit of the law, and how this is contrasted with the Gentiles' attainment of righteousness through faith.
2. Discuss the concept of the "stumbling stone" in this passage, exploring its significance in the context of both the Jewish rejection of Jesus and the broader implications for understanding faith and salvation.
3. What is the difference between pursuing righteousness by works versus by faith and why can a works-based approach not achieve salvation?
4. How does the passage reconcile God's sovereignty with human responsibility, and what are the practical implications of this balance for believers?
5. What are the two possible responses to Christ, and what are the results?
6. What does the passage say about the role of faith in gaining righteousness?
7. What is the significance of the phrase "will not be put to shame?"
8. What are the ways this passage speaks to modern believers and how it impacts views on personal worthiness, grace, and the way to salvation?