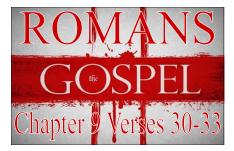
14. Why is it crucial to understand that we're not saved by faith PLUS works, but rather by faith FOR good works (*Ephesians 2:8-10*)?

15. How can we pray for each other this week?



Message #67: A Right and a Wrong Way

September 27, 2015



1. Two Groups — Two Destinies

Quotes to Ponder

Those who have received salvation are to attribute it to sovereign grace alone, and to give all the praise to Him, who makes them to differ from others. Jonathan Edwards

Any plan of salvation which gives no offense to self-righteous men, is certainly not of God. Charles Simeon

Men look for something big. God put Christ into this world as a low-lying stone, hid away among the tall grass of a distant Roman province. Men held their eyes too high & walked across the world, not seeing Christ as God's only answer to their problems, & they tripped over Him & stumbled when they came upon Him suddenly. They were offended by a scheme of salvation which brings man to nothingness, & they refused God's way. Donald Grey Barnhouse

The designations of a stone and a rock are given to Jesus Christ, both presenting the idea that the great work of redemption rests solely on Him. He is its author, the foundation on which it rests, the center in which all its lines meet, and the origin from which they proceed.... In another sense, He is a stone of stumbling, occasioning His rejection by those who, not believing in Him, are cut off from communion with God. Robert Haldane

By His own determination, God **will not save** a person who does not believe in His Son, no matter how sincere and heartfelt. In God's sovereign order, both His gracious provision and the exercise of man's will are required for salvation. Like many other revelations in Scripture, those two truths cannot be fully harmonized by reason, only accepted by faith. John MacArthur A. Gentiles

B. Jews

2. Stumbling Stone

A. Exclusivity of Jesus

B. Offense of the Cross

C. Simplicity of Salvation

Ashland Bible Church www.ashlandbiblechurch.com 541-482-8644 1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Confused you?

- 9. Who is the stumbling stone and rock of offense (Romans 9:32b-33)?
- 10. What do these verses add to our understanding of the rock/stone 2. Why is it important to keep God's sovereignty and man's responsibility analogy throughout Scripture? in balance in our thinking? How does Paul balance them in Romans 9? Psalm 118:22 — Luke 20:17-18 — 3. What are the contrasts in *Romans 9:30-31*? Isaiah 8:14 — Acts 4:10-12 -4. What does Paul mean when he says that the Gentiles did not pursue Isaiah 28:16 — 1 Corinthians 1:23 righteousness and yet they attained it (Romans 9:30)? Matthew 7:24-25 — 1 Peter 2:4-8 — 5. What does it mean that Israel pursued a law of righteousness but did not attain it (Romans 9:31)? Matthew 21:42 — 6. What reason(s) does Paul give for many Jews not attaining righteousness (Romans 9:31-32)? 11. Who is responsible for someone being saved? Explain. What was wrong with the way Israel pursued righteousness? 12. Who is responsible for someone not being saved? Explain. 7. Before Paul believed in the gospel, did he think he was righteous 13. Humanly speaking, who is more difficult to reach with the gospel: a (Philippians 3:2-11)? Why? good, religious person or a gross sinner? 8. What caused the Jews to stumble (Romans 9:32b-33)? How should our approach differ with each of these types?