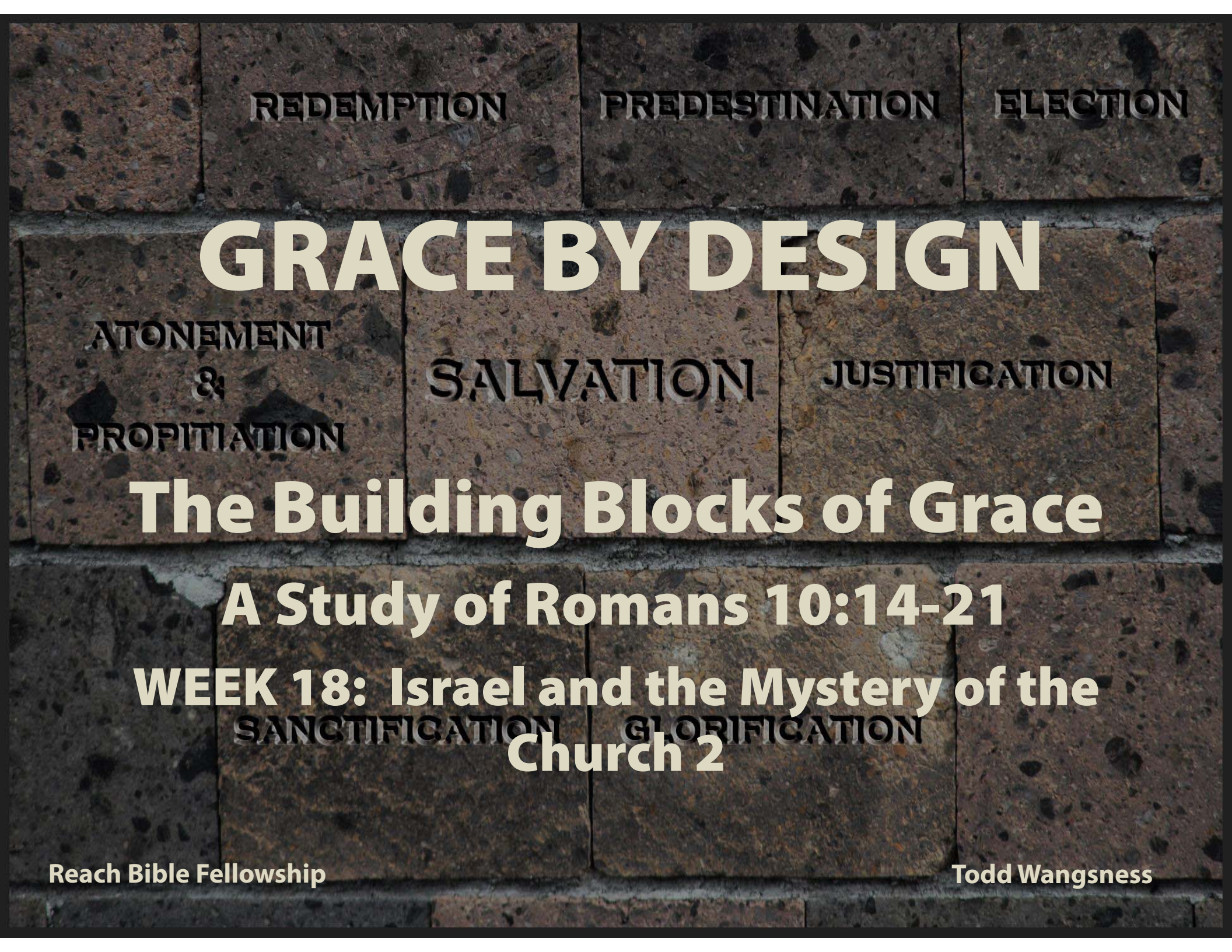


GRACE BY DESIGN

The Building Blocks of Grace

A Study of Romans 10:14-21

WEEK 18: Israel and the Mystery of the Church 2

Reach Bible Fellowship

Todd Wangsness

Grace By Design: Study Outline

Week 1:	Romans	Overview of Grace and Salvation
Week 2:	Rom 1:1 – 1:17	Introduction to Romans
Week 3:	Rom 1:18 – 2:16	Justification – Ignorance is not an Excuse
Week 4:	Rom 2:17 – 3:20	Justification – Knowledge isn't Good Enough
Week 5:	Rom. 3:21 – 3:24	Justification – Righteousness of God Revealed 1
Week 6:	Rom. 3:25 – 3:31	Justification – Righteousness of God Revealed 2
Week 7:	Rom. 4:1 – 4:25	Justification – Faith vs the Law
Week 8:	Rom. 5:1 – 5:11	Sanctification – Peace with God 1
Week 9:	Rom. 5:12 – 5:21	Sanctification – Peace with God 2
Week 10:	Rom. 6:1 – 6:14	Sanctification – The Christian's Struggle with Sin 1
Week 11:	Rom. 6:15 – 6:23	Sanctification – The Christian's Struggle with Sin 2
Week 12:	Rom. 7:1 – 7:25	Sanctification – The Law Can't Save (But the Spirit Can!)
Week 13:	Rom. 8:1 – 8:17	Sanctification – Life in the Spirit
Week 14:	Rom. 8:18 – 8:30	Glorification – From Suffering to Glory
Week 15:	Rom. 8:31 – 8:39	Glorification – God's Everlasting Love
Week 16:	Rom. 9:1 – 9:33	Israel's Rejection and God's Purpose
Week 17:	Rom. 10:1 – 10:13	Israel and the Mystery of the Church 1
Week 18:	Rom. 10:14 – 10:21	Israel and the Mystery of the Church 2
Week 19:	Rom. 11:1 – 11:36	The Salvation of the Jewish people
Week 20:	Rom. 12:1 – 12:2	Living the Transformed Life
Week 21:	Rom. 12:3– 12:8	Gifts of the Spirit
Week 22:	Rom. 12:9– 12:21	The Christian Walk
Week 23:	Rom. 13:1 – 13:14	Love Fulfills the Law
Week 24:	Rom. 14:1 – 14:21	Not Judging the Weak in Faith
Week 25:	Rom. 15:1 – 15:25	Bearing One Another's Burdens
Week 26:	Rom. 16:1 – 16:25	Conclusion and closing remarks

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Notable quote on Chapter 10:14-21

"The preaching of the gospel is God's grand instrument for saving souls. Men must hear before they can believe, and they must believe before they can call upon the name of the Lord. But how shall they hear without a preacher? God has so arranged His economy of grace that the voice of man shall be the medium through which the voice of the Spirit speaks to the hearts of sinners. It is a humbling thought that God should use such frail instruments as we are, yet it is a glorious truth that He does!

The text tells us that the feet of those who preach the gospel are beautiful, not because of their eloquence or their learning, but because they carry the message of peace, of good tidings, of salvation. Yet, as Paul goes on to show, not all who hear will believe, for Israel, though they heard the message, refused to obey. This should stir us to greater zeal in proclaiming the Word, knowing that while some will reject it, others, by God's grace, will receive it unto eternal life."

- **Charles Spurgeon**

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Chapter 10:14-21 Overview

- **Israel's ignorance of the Universal Preaching of the Gospel**
  - **In this section, Paul provides yet another proof that Israel's stumbling was not God's fault**
  - **The fact that salvation is provided to Jew and Gentile alike, necessitates that it must be preached to all**
  - **The message of salvation must now be provided to EVERYONE!**
  - **Paul uses proofs from the Old Testament to make his point**

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10:14-15 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace,

Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

- **Paul asks a chain of questions**
  - **Each question presents a logical argument and basis for the next question**

- **Paul points out four things**
  1. **There is no calling upon the name of the Lord without faith**
  2. **There can be no faith without hearing the content of the gospel**
  3. **There can be no hearing without the preaching of the gospel**
  4. **There can be no preaching of the gospel without witnesses/teachers/evangelists being sent**

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- **He then quotes Isaiah to prove the message had been preached, but not believed**
  - ***Isa 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"***

- **The function of a priest was to represent humanity to God**
  - ***Exo 19:5-6a 'Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6 'And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation …'***
  - **The tribe of Levi was a priestly tribe whose duty was to represent Israel to God**
  - **As a nation, God intended for Israel to represent humanity to Him, which Israel failed to do**

- **OT Scriptures show that God is the ONLY GOD and He is the ONLY SAVIOR!**
  - ***Isa 43:10-11 "You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me. 11 I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior.***

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10:16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?"

- **He then quotes the very scripture in Isaiah that all Jews love to dismiss. Isaiah 53 is arguably the strongest passage in the OT that teaches the Messiah would first come as a "suffering servant", not as a reigning king!**
  - ***Isa 53:1,3 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? … 3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.***
  - **Judaism argues this passage is talking about the Nation of Israel rather than the Messiah**
  - **The entire chapter of Isaiah 53 prophetically describes Israel's rejection of the Messiahship of Yeshua**
  - **Paul proves from this passage that there was a failure on the part of Israel to obey the message they had heard**

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10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- **In verse 17, Paul explains the relationship between faith and hearing**
  - **People can only believe when they have a message to believe**
  - **But how can they believe a message unless they "hear" the message?**

- **What is the message all people need to hear?**
  - **It is the message of the Gospel concerning the Messiah [in eight (easy?) points]!**
    - **The Messiah died for our sins (Rom 6:4)**
    - **He was buried and rose again (1 Cor 15:1-4)**
    - **He ascended to heaven (Acts 1:9-11)**
    - **He is now at the right hand of God (Col 3:1)**
    - **His ascension now enables the Holy Spirit to dwell within us (Joh 14:16-17)**
    - **We are now "perfected" and are to live a life of "sanctification" (Heb 10:14)**
    - **The Holy Spirit within us empowers us to live a sanctified life (Rom 6:14)**
    - **God – thru our Savior - gifts to us Eternal Life (Rom 6:22)**

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10:18 But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: "Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."

- *"Have they not heard?"*
  - **Paul quotes Psalms 19 to prove decisively Israel indeed heard the message so that they are without excuse.**
    - *Psa 19:1-4 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. 2 Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. 4 Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.*
  - **Also, by the time Paul wrote this epistle to the Romans (55-57AD), the gospel had been preached in every Jewish community by Jesus and the other disciples**
  - **And they witnessed the momentous circumstances around the crucifixion of Jesus**
- **The problem was not that the Jews had not heard the gospel, but …**
  - **They had not believed the message**
  - **And they refused to obey it**

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10:19-20 But I say, did Israel not know? First Moses says: "I will provoke you to jealousy by those who are not a nation, I will move you to anger by a foolish nation." 20 But Isaiah is very bold and says: "I was found by those who did not seek Me; I was made manifest to those who did not ask for Me."

- **Paul quotes Moses in Deuteronomy**
  - *Deu 32:21b They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; They have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols. But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation.*
  - *"those who are not a nation"*: **Speaking specifically of the Church, the body of the Messiah, which came into being in Acts 2**
    - **The Church is composed of members of all nationalities, but in itself is not a nation**
    - **The fact the Church would provoke Israel to jealousy is detailed in the next chapter**

- **Paul also quotes Isaiah 65:1:** *"I was sought by those who did not ask for Me; I was found by those who did not seek Me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am,' to a nation that was not called by My name."*
  - **This verse anticipated a salvation message to be sent out to every nation the would be received by Gentiles among these nations**
  - **The message the Jews rejected, would be received by the Gentiles!**

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10:21 But to Israel He says: "All day long I have stretched out My hands To a disobedient and contrary people."

- **Paul quotes Isaiah 65:2:** ***"I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, according to their own thoughts"***
- **When Israel rejected the Messiahship of Yeshua, the nation was essentially rejecting God**
- **Regardless, as Paul's quote of Isaiah shows, God's attitude towards His people is still one of love and compassion**
- **He continually keeps His hands open**
- **Any time that Israel wants to respond, He will accept her**
- **Israel has rejected the Lord, but He is still waiting to receive Israel**

Grace By Design: God's Everlasting Love

Questions to ponder:

- Are Old-Testament believers considered part of Jesus' bride (the Church)?
  - NT Church as "Bride of Christ": Eph 5:22-32, 2 Cor 11:2, Rev 19:6-9, Rev 21:9-22:5
  - OT Israel as "Wife of Jehovah": Jer 3:1-25, Isa 54:1-17, Hos 1:2 – 3:5
  - God will return to dealing with Israel as an entity after the Church Age: Act 15:14-18
  - OT Analogy in the book of Ruth: Boaz married Ruth, a Gentile bride (typology of Jesus & the Church)
- Are "tribulation saints" considered part of the Bride of Christ? (1 Thes 4:16-17, Rev 19:7)
- Are "millennial saints" considered part of the Bride of Christ?
- Are all Believers called to witness and/or evangelize? (Eph 4:11-12, Joh 4:35)
- If we are to witness/evangelize to non-believers, are you prepared to do so?
  - Scripture memorization (or at least relevant chapter/verse references)
  - Your own testimony
  - Pray for opportunity to witness
- What holds us back from witnessing to non-believers?
  - Fear of embarrassment or rejection
  - Fear of imposition
  - Fear of ridicule or retribution
  - Apathy