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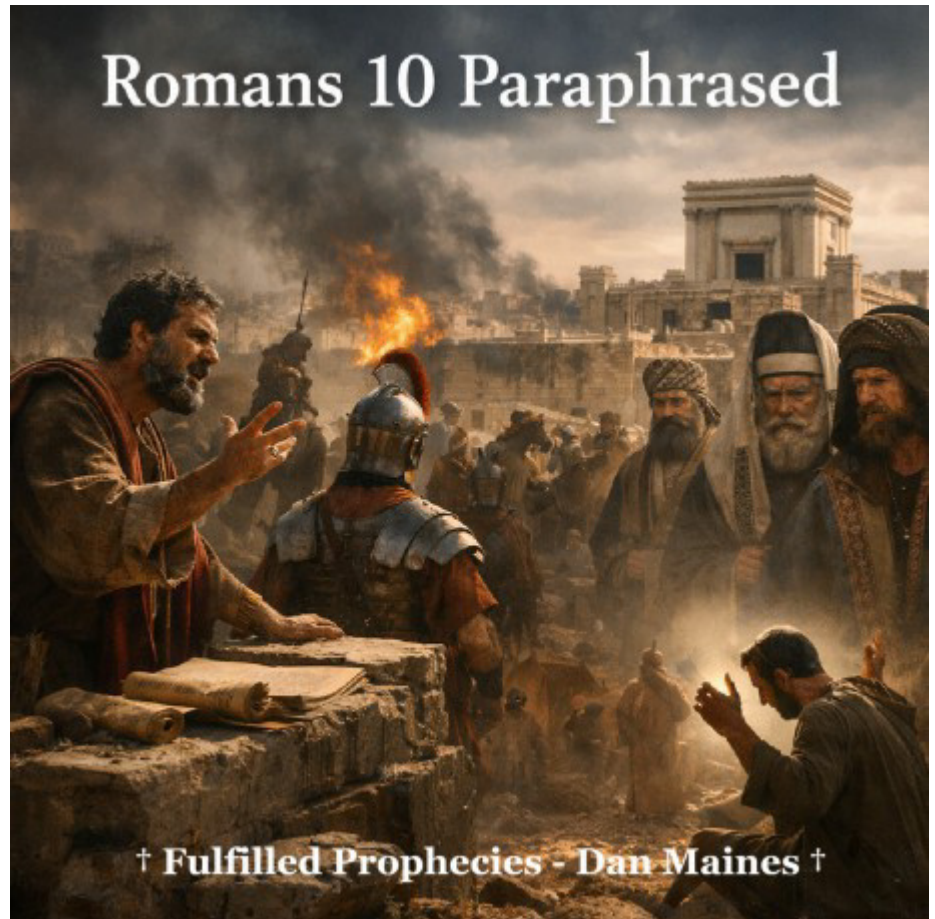
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Romans 10 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

Romans 10 Paraphrased

Introduction

† Paul's focus here is Israel's failure to submit to God's righteousness

† They had the Law, they had zeal, but they rejected the fulfillment standing right in front of them

† This chapter proves the message was already preached, already heard, and already rejected in that generation

Romans 10:1

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they'd be saved

† Paul isn't condemning Israel emotionally, he's grieving over their unbelief (Romans 9:1-3)

† Their issue isn't access to truth, it's refusal to accept it

Romans 10:2

I testify that they have zeal for God, but not according to true knowledge

† Zeal without truth leads to error, sincerity doesn't make something right (Hosea 4:6)

† They were passionate about the Law but blind to its fulfillment

Romans 10:3

Not knowing God's righteousness and trying to establish their own, they didn't submit to God's righteousness

† Self-righteousness always resists grace (Philippians 3:9)

† They chose their system over God's provision in Christ

Romans 10:4

Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes

† The Law reached its goal in Christ and was fulfilled (Matthew 5:17)

† Righteousness is now found in Him, not in commandments

Romans 10:5

Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness based on law will live by that righteousness

† The Law required perfect obedience, anything less failed (Galatians 3:10)

† This shows why the Law could never justify anyone

Romans 10:6

But the righteousness based on faith says, don't say in your heart, who will ascend into heaven

† Faith doesn't require reaching up to God, Christ already came down (John 3:13)

† Salvation isn't about effort, it's about receiving

Romans 10:7

Or who will descend into the abyss, that is, to bring Christ up from the dead

† There's nothing left to accomplish, Christ's work is finished (Hebrews 10:12)

† Faith rests in what God already did

Romans 10:8

But what does it say, the word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that is the word of faith which we preach

† The message wasn't hidden, it was right in front of them (Deuteronomy 30:14)

† That generation had full access to the truth

Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you'll be saved

† Salvation comes through faith, not through Law keeping (Acts 2:36-38)

† This was the call going out before judgment came

Romans 10:10

With the heart a person believes resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses resulting in salvation

† Faith produces righteousness, confession reveals it (Matthew 10:32)

† This is inward belief expressed outwardly

Romans 10:11

Scripture says whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame

† Faith in Christ never fails those who trust Him (Isaiah 28:16)

† Even in persecution, believers weren't ashamed

Romans 10:12

There's no distinction between Jew and Greek, the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him

† The division between Jew and Gentile was removed (Ephesians 2:14-16)

† Salvation was always for all nations

Romans 10:13

Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

† This promise extends to everyone who believes (Joel 2:32)

† Calling on Him means trusting Him, not performing rituals

Romans 10:14

How will they call on Him in whom they haven't believed, how will they believe in Him whom they haven't heard, and how will they hear without a preacher

† Faith comes through hearing the message (Romans 10:17)

† God sent messengers to that generation

Romans 10:15

How will they preach unless they're sent, just as it's written, how beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news

† The gospel was actively preached before AD 70 (Isaiah 52:7)

† The message went out before judgment fell

Romans 10:16

They didn't all heed the good news, for Isaiah says, Lord, who has believed our report

† Israel's rejection was already foretold (Isaiah 53:1)

† Their unbelief fulfilled prophecy

Romans 10:17

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ

† The preached word produces faith (John 17:20)

† The apostolic message was the source of belief

Romans 10:18

But I say, surely they've never heard, have they, indeed they have, their voice has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world

† The gospel had already spread throughout the known world (Colossians 1:23)

† No one could claim ignorance

Romans 10:19

But I say, surely Israel didn't know, did they, first Moses says, I'll make you jealous by that which is not a nation

† God warned Israel He would provoke them through the Gentiles (Deuteronomy 32:21)

† This was always part of His plan

Romans 10:20

Isaiah says, I was found by those who didn't seek me, I became manifest to those who didn't ask for me

† The Gentiles receiving God fulfilled prophecy (Isaiah 65:1)

† Grace extended beyond Israel

Romans 10:21

But as for Israel He says, all day long I've stretched out my hands to a disobedient and stubborn people

† God continually called them, but they resisted (Isaiah 65:2)

† Their rejection led to the end of that covenant system

Historical References

† Josephus records Israel's stubborn refusal to listen before Jerusalem fell

† Eusebius confirms the gospel was preached throughout the world before AD 70

† Irenaeus states the apostles carried the message to all nations in their generation

† Clement of Alexandria notes the spread of the gospel among Jew and Gentile alike

How It Applies To Us Today

† Righteousness has never come through law, it's always been through faith

† We don't strive to earn what Christ already fulfilled

† The message is near, it's about believing, not performing

† We live in the finished work, not in a system God already ended

Q and A Appendix

Q: Did Israel hear the gospel before judgment?

A: Yes, the message went into all the earth and to the ends of the world (Romans 10:18, Colossians 1:23)

Q: Was Israel lacking zeal?

A: No, they had zeal but not according to knowledge (Romans 10:2)

Q: What ended the Law as a path to righteousness?

A: Christ is the end of the law for righteousness (Romans 10:4)

Q: Is salvation only for Israel?

A: No, there's no distinction between Jew and Greek (Romans 10:12)

Q: Why did Israel miss it?

A: They tried to establish their own righteousness instead of submitting to God's (Romans 10:3)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Romans 10

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies

† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

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