Let us proclaim Jesus!

Do we truly believe that we are saved by believing in Jesus? Today we will learn the importance of declaring Jesus Christ as a proof of our faith in Him.

*Correct knowledge is the gospel, God's righteousness.

- v.1 As in chapter 9, the apostle Paul hopes and prays that Israel will be saved.

 How can Israel be unsaved when they are God's people?
- v.2 Israel was zealous of God, but not based on "right knowledge."

 The Israelites memorized the Bible perfectly, gave tithe offerings precisely, and kept the Sabbath, the Law accurately etc. Their faith was based on the Law. However, their faith was not based on the gospel which is correct knowledge.

 We should consider whether our knowledge of faith is correct knowledge or not. We realize that we depend on our academic knowledge, our theological knowledge, and also, YouTube sermons, etc. There may be a lot of mixed knowledge. For example, cults derived from Christianity is very zealous, but they are not saved because they don't base on the correct knowledge, the gospel.
- v.3 Israelites does not know "God's righteousness". To be saved, they must know "God's righteousness". Romans 3:22 "This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference." The "righteousness of God" has nothing to do with the law, but is the amazing righteousness of believing in Jesus Christ and being justified by God (justification: logizomai in Greek). God's righteousness is a manifestation of "God's strong will. Human beings failed to keep the Law. They became hypocrites (Rom. 2:20-22).
- v. 4 Christ will perfect righteousness in all believers. The one who has perfected the true righteousness of God is Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the true perfection of God's righteousness. Romans 4:25 "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification." Jesus Christ died for our sins and rose again to make us righteous.

Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Christ lives in me. Jesus Christ helps us to live righteously so that we can fulfill God's righteousness. Amazing truth is Jesus' indwelling in us.

*Example of the Law of Moses

v.5 Moses received the Law in God's own handwriting.

Deuteronomy 26:18-19: "And the LORD has declared this day that you are his people, his treasured possession as he promised, and that you are to keep all his commands (18). He has declared that he will set you in praise, fame and honor high above all the nations he made and that you will be a people holy to the LORD your God, as he promised(19)." God gave this law to Israel after more than 400 years of slavery. Israel tried to keep the law, but could not. But God did not give up his righteousness for Israel.

- v.6 Don't try to get to heaven by good deeds! Jesus came into the world.
- v.7 Don't do hard, bitter work! Jesus died on the cross and already experienced death.

 Therefore, those who believe and are saved do not do asceticism or hard work

 (Deuteronomy 30:11-13).
- v.8 Deuteronomy 30:14 "The word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it." The word of faith is the gospel of Jesus Christ John 1:14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." Jesus Christ was the Word of God, who became flesh and came into our midst. The incarnation of Jesus Christ is a mysterious and an amazing work of God and grace.

*The Power of the Declaration of the Word

- v.9 "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the death, you will be saved."
- v.10 "For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

'Salvation' means not only dying and going to heaven, but also being saved while alive. To be "justified" is logizomai in Greek, which means "to be given eternal life, to become a child of God, to inherit the blessings of Abraham, to receive the Holy Spirit, and to be healed. It also means all the blessings of peace, glory, sanctification, prosperity, etc.

By the way, do we really believe in Jesus?

Let us experience the power of proclaiming the Lord Jesus! Let us confess with our mouths, believing with our hearts! We confess to one another the Apostle's Creed. And we can declare like this: Jesus is my Lord! Jesus is my Christ! Maranatha! (Jesus of the Second Coming) Immanuel! (God with us). I am a child of God! I am the salt of the

earth and the light of the world! I am the Holy People! I am the child of Light!

Proclaiming the Word of God, we are saved from our present suffering and enriches our whole lives. Declaration of the Word is to declare 'I cannot do it, but God can!'

This is totally different from self-hypnosis in counseling. It is to believe in the power of the Word. Also, we can proclaim the Lord Jesus through praise, worship, Bible reading, prayer, evangelism, etc.

v.11 Jesus Christ will make our life rich. Those who trust in Jesus will never be put to shame. It means that we can live spiritually and our life very richly. (Isaiah 28:16)

Those who call on the name of Jesus will be saved abundantly!

Colossians 2:2-3 "My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." In Jesus, the treasure is packed.

- v.12 Call upon the name of Jesus! God blesses all who call on Jesus.

 Savior, Sovereign, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, King of Judges, King of Justice,
 Lord of lords, Healer, King of Peace, Authority, Wonderful Counselor, King of Kings,
 (Isaiah 9:6-7) Immanuel, Shepherd, Advocate, Intercessor, Redeemer, etc.
- v.13 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Let us proclaim the gospel to ourself!

Psalm 42:5: "Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God."

Let us proclaim the gospel to ourselves, not falling down in the midst of our affliction! No negative talk. Proclaim the Word to your problems and unsaved family members. Mark 11:23 "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen,

Let's pray together.

it will be done for him."