

# “HEARTFELT, ADORING FAITH”

## ROMANS 10:1-4

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: Chapter 9 of Romans is about God’s sovereignty. Chapter 10 is about the responsibility of people to believe God.

**IS CALLED FOR** from the beginning. “Even the commandments in the Old Testament books of the law...are not primarily a call to external obedience. They are, above all, a call to heartfelt, adoring faith in the God of mercy and lovingkindness, who desires obedience and who graciously forgives sin. External observance of the law without internal faith in the God who gave the law results in condemnation for sin without mercy, not salvation from it.” John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Romans 9-16, p.70. (**Romans 10:1, fn 10:1, Exodus 20:1-4, fn 20:1ff, Deuteronomy 5:6-8, fn 5:7, Deuteronomy 6:4-6, fn 6:5, Matthew 22:34-38, I John 4:7, 8, fn 4:7ff, fn 4:8**) *How could you have “heartfelt, adoring faith”?*

**IS MISSED** by substituting a way of external obedience in place of internal obedience and “heartfelt, adoring faith.” The unbelieving Jew refused to submit to learning God’s knowledge, and their ignorance produced a false way of works-righteousness. “Because they relied on their own works-righteousness, Jews saw no need for faith.” MacArthur, p. 68. (**Romans 10:2, 3, fn 10:3-5, Romans 9:30-33, fn 9:32, Hosea 4:6, fn 4:6-9, John 5:36-40, fn 5:39, 40, Matthew 15:6-9, fn 15:8, 9**) *How could you help your family to have “heartfelt, adoring faith”?*

**IS CALLED FOR ALL** by Christ. The goal of the Law was to lead one to Christ. Christ is the end of legalism (trying to win God’s acceptance and favor by law keeping.) “Because of Jesus Christ, man is no longer faced with the task of satisfying God’s justice. ...He [man] has no longer to win God’s favor; he need simply take the grace and love and mercy which he [God] freely offers.” William Barclay, The Letter to the Romans, p. 138. The cross of Christ levels the field of salvation for Israelites and Gentiles alike. Therefore, all who have “heartfelt, adoring faith” have salvation and Christ’s righteousness. (**Romans 10:4, fn 10:4, Galatians 3:21-29, fn 3:24, 25, Ephesians 2:11-18, fn 2:15, Hebrews 7:18, 19, fn 7:18, 19, Galatians 2:21, fn 2:21**) *For you, a believer, how could “heartfelt, adoring faith” be part of your quiet time?*

*Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.*

In the first two of the Ten Commandments God told the Israelites that they were to have no other gods, and they were to worship and love Him only. He was, in essence, instructing them to have “heartfelt, adoring faith.”