

RESPONSIBILITY!

Faith Is Our Response to His Ability • Part 2

Lesson 14

	What Shall "YOU" Say Then? (2:1, 3; 3:5; 9:19)	TWO OPTIONS	What Shall "We" Say Then? (9: 30-33)
-	Natural conclusion of unbelief and/or human reasoning	PERSPECTIVES	Biblical conclusion of belief in divine revelation
	It is all of God, SO there's NO room for human responsibility	TWO CONCLUSIONS	It is all of God AND there's STILL room for human responsibility.

PAUL'S CONCLUSIONS IN LIGHT OF UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION [Especially God's Calling Out So Few Jews but Many Gentiles] (vv. 30-33)

1. God's sovereignty does not ELIMINATE human responsibility.

God's sovereignty and human responsibility are not equals, because the Bible clearly exalts God's sovereignty over human responsibility but does so in way that does not eliminate human responsibility!

- 1) It's a mystery: I hold to many doctrines that I cannot explain....
- 2) This view of sovereignty *not eliminating* human responsibility is all over scripture...

Crucifixion of Christ - Acts 2:22-24; 4:27-29

Inspiration of Scripture - 2 Pet 1:20-21

Security of the Believer - 1 Peter 1:5

Sanctification of the Believer - Philippians 2:12-13

Salvation of the Believer - Acts 13:45-48; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

- 2. Salvation is <u>OUR</u> response to <u>HIS</u> ability to save us by faith alone in Christ alone. (vv. 30-32)
 - ➤ How to become a Christian WITHOUT being religious. (v. 30)

Many Gentiles who *did not* actively run after the prize—a right standing with the One true God—got it by responding in faith to the gospel of Christ.

➤ How to be religious and **NOT** become a Christian. (vv. 31-32)

Majority of Jews who **did** actively run after the prize—**the Law's promised right standing with the One true God**—did not get it, because they pursued it **as if it could be reached** by their own works.

3.	Salvation requires a FAITH response in what Christ has DONE for you, not what you DO for God.
	(v. 32)

4. Christ is either the <u>STUMBLING BLOCK</u> of our condemnation or the <u>CORNERSTONE</u> of our salvation! (v. 33)

MANY JEWS

in their race to be justified by their own works and their own ability to keep God's Law...

STUMBLED OVER the STUMBLING STONE

and were **OFFENDED BY** the **ROCK OF OFFENSE**

These sinners God had

justly HARDENED in their

UNBELIEF



JESUS CHRISTStumbling Stone or Cornerstone?

MANY GENTILES

who were in no way in the race to justify themselves by their works and their ability to keep God's Law ...

BELIEVED IN

the Good News of salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ...

the PRECIOUS CORNERSTONE
the SURE FOUNDATION
the APPROVED STONE

These sinners God had mercifully ELECTED in order to BELIEVE

Should We Conclude that There Is No Need for Faith?

NO! Unconditional election **results** in God's saving promises being fulfilled to all peoples—Jew and Gentile—by grace through faith in Christ without eliminating human responsibility.

Don't Stumble Over God's Sovereign Cornerstone of Salvation

- ➤ Be SAVED TODAY! Place your faith in Christ alone for your salvation! Our responsibility is to repent of our sins and receive Christ alone by faith alone!
- ➤ Be THANKFUL! When you were not even aware of God's righteousness and were pursuing the world, the flesh, and the devil...God chose you, pursued you, and called you to Himself through the Gospel of Jesus Christ!
- ➤ Be HUMBLE! It is not anything we did or are doing or will do that saves us! It is all of God who chose in Christ before the foundation of the world and called us to Himself by the gospel and the power of His Holy Spirit!
- ➤ Be BOLD! Share the gospel of Christ with all people for it is God's will that whosoever calls on the name of the will be saved, whether Jew or Greek, religious or irreligious, pious or pagan! There is no other name by which all peoples are saved!