

# Study in Romans

Doctrine > God's Plan for Israel > Divine Sovereignty in Israel's Present >  
The Message of Faith Has Gone Out to All  
Romans 10:14-21

In this passage, Paul brings together again all peoples, both Jews and Gentiles, into one group to whom God has revealed His message of salvation. Whether through the witness of creation, the conscience and/or the gospel, there is enough information for all people to believe and call upon the name of the Lord. This is important because the creedal statement of the previous section (10:9-10) is not a magical incantation, but rather a summary of the body of doctrine concerning Jesus Christ and His mission to bring atonement for sin and God's righteousness to the legal accounts of all who respond in faith to what God has given them.

But how much information is necessary to hear before a person can respond in faith? Paul answers this by dealing with the opposite: What if you have all the information available? Does that guarantee salvation? Israel serves as exhibit "A" that merely having all the information is not enough! Because salvation is God's work and faith comes to the hearer through the gracious choice of God (cf. 11:5-7), God will save all He chooses, and will see to it that they have enough information to respond in faith.

1. The questions (vv. 14-15; cf., Is. 52:7)
  - a. Response
  - b. Belief
  - c. Hearing
  - d. Sending
2. Faith comes by hearing (vv. 16-17; cf., Is. 53:1 and following)
3. The creation proclaims to all people everywhere (v. 18; cf., Ps. 19:4)
4. Israel made jealous by God's outreach to the world (vv. 19-21; cf., Dt. 32:21; Is. 65:1-2)