We Stand or Fall on Easter Faith April 12, 2020

*Romans 10:5-13 Series: The Work Is Done*

We live and die. Christ died and lived! – John Stott

Intro: Queen Victoria grappled with Easter Faith.

1. God rejects Heroic Faith.
2. Heroic Faith wants salvation with our ego intact.

v. 5 *the righteousness that is based on the law …*

v. 5 *the person who does the commandments shall live by them*

v. 6 *Who will ascend into heaven?*

v. 7 *Who will descend into the abyss?*

v. 3 *For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.*

1. Jesus is the only hero of true faith.

vv. 6-7 *Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ … or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’*

Nobody brought Jesus down to earth. v. 6

Nobody raised Jesus from the dead. v. 7

1. God puts salvation on the bottom shelf.

v. 8 *The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart …*

v. 8 *that is, the word of faith that we proclaim*

* Why do people want to be the hero of their own salvation?
* What are some signs that you’re seeking to establish your own righteousness?
* What’s the difference between seeking to establish your own righteousness and just living in obedience to God?
1. God calls us to Easter Faith.
2. Easter Faith believes in the resurrected Jesus.

v. 9 *believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead*

v. 10 *with the heart one believes*

v. 11 *Everyone who believes in him …*

1. Easter Faith confesses Jesus as Lord.

v. 9 *if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord*

v. 10 *with the mouth one confesses*

v. 13 *everyone who calls on the name of the Lord*

John 12:42 *Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue …*

1 Corinthians 12:3 *Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.*

Philippians 2:9-11 *Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

* Why is belief in the resurrection so important to God? i.e. What does is prove?
* What does it mean to confess Jesus as Lord?
* John 12:42 describes people who believed in Jesus but wanted to keep it secret. What’s wrong with that?
* How can we confess our faith today?
* Verse 13 is a quotation from Joel 2:32. Who does “the LORD” refer to in that passage? What does that tell you about Jesus?
1. God saves us through Easter Faith.
2. God saves us through Easter Faith.

v. 9 *if you … believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved*

v. 10 *with the mouth one confesses and is saved*

v. 13 *everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved*

1. God justifies us through Easter Faith.

v. 10 *with the heart one believes and is justified*

1. God bestows blessings on us through Easter faith.

v. 12 *bestowing his riches on all who call on him*

1. God levels the playing field through Easter Faith.

v. 11 *Everyone who believes …*

v. 12 *For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek …*

v. 12 *the same Lord is Lord of all*

v. 12 *bestowing his riches on all who call on him*

v. 13 *everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved*

* What does God save us from?
* What does it mean to be justified?
* God could save all people through faith but give special standing or consideration to people based on their works. Why should we be glad that He doesn’t?

Study ahead: Next week, we’ll study Psalm 32.

Notes