



REASONING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Private Time With God

Yes, Too You Can Be Saved!

Key Verses: Ro 10:8-13

Every Person Has the Opportunity to Be Saved

"That if thou shalt . . ." in Ro 10:9 is given without qualification and applies to everyone, "Jew and the Greek" (v. 12) "for whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (v. 13). Salvation is specifically offered to individuals, "If thou shalt confess . . ." and not to groups.

Confession Is Agreeing with God That We Are Sinful

It is the Holy Spirit who brings conviction to the heart of man (Jn 16:8; Eph 2:8). The verb "confess" is *homologêscs* derived from *homou*, together, and *légoe*, to say. Thus, a person first believes together with God that he is a sinner and then externalizes this agreement with his mouth (v. 10).

Why "with thy mouth" (v. 9)? In this way we verify our faith and its personal application--unlike a certain young lady who when asked whether she was saved said, "My mother told me I was when I was a little girl."

There Is an Initial Confession and Continuous Confessions

The verb *homologêscs* is in the aorist subjunctive which describes an initial

confession. This initial confession indicates a change in our position from darkness to light, from death to life, or a rebirth (Jn 3:3). Consequent to that transforming experience, one must continue to confess his sins to God for forgiveness (1 Jn 1:9). The verb "believe" is also in the aorist subjunctive, meaning that our faith and confession of it is an accomplished fact, which makes us continuing believers.

What Must We Believe to Be Saved?

We must confess that God raised Jesus from the dead (v. 9). Without faith in the resurrection there can be no salvation (1 Co 15:14). Ho Theós (the God) here refers to the Father (see Jn 1:1; Eph 1:17; Gal 1:4). But since Jesus is Lord, He also raised Himself (Ro 6:9). Here *egertheis*, raised, is in the middle tense and should be translated, having raised Himself. The same tense for "raised" is used in Ro 8:34 and also in Jn 2:19; 10:17 and 1 Co 15:20.

The Holy Spirit, being part of the Triune God, also raised Jesus from the dead (Ro 8:11). The Result of This Belief and Confession Is Salvation. The verb used for "thou shalt be saved," is *saethêsc*. It is in the aorist subjunctive passive voice, which indicates a definite and final result.

The passive tense means our salvation is an act of God, not of ourselves, and, thus can never be taken away. As Jesus promised, "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand" (Jn 10:28).