

## Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

March 10, 2019

### Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Romans 14:1-8

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Why Does Paul Talk About the Kingdom?*  
(Acts 14:21,22)

### Announcements:

**Sue Klepper** is back in the hospital fighting an infection.

**Dave and Sandy Stewart** could use more financial help, if you weren't able to help last Sunday.

**New church sign:** If you'd like to suggest a design for the new sign we're getting for the front lawn, see Pastor Kurth.

**Baby shower** for Sarah Bilka *next Sunday* after church!

**Midweek Bible Study:** Wednesday at 7 but call Steve first

**Our offering box** is located just left of the kitchen door.

**Pick up** today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

## Romans 10:9 *Do We Have To Confess the Lord to Be Saved?*

If all we have to do to be saved is “believe” (Acts 16:31) why does Paul say we have to “confess” the Lord (Rom.10:9)? The misuse of this verse has led some pastors to say that you are not saved unless you *tell* someone you're saved. Many pastors give “altar calls” when they give the gospel, inviting the lost to “come forward” to confess the Lord to the pastor or one of his aids. But many people are afraid to be in front of others, and is salvation by believing or is it by courage?

Some pastors give altar calls so they can *count* those who trust Christ and glory in their flesh (cf.Gal.6:12,13). But some give altar calls because they sincerely believe you must confess the Lord to someone to be saved. But either way reflects a misunderstanding of Romans 10:9.

It is true that if you are saved you ought to say so (Ps.107:2). But you don't have to say anything *to be saved*. The word “confess” is *a verb*, so confessing is something you can *do*, and things you can do are called *works*, and salvation is “not of works” (Eph.2:8). So why does Romans 10:9 say you have to believe and confess to be saved?

It doesn't. It says you have to *confess and believe*. But how can you confess something you haven't believed? Well, “confess” just means *to admit something is true*. If God says that there are such things as angels and resurrection from the dead, then you have to do what the Pharisees did and “con-fess” that they exist (Acts 23:8). That is, you have to admit it is true, and agree with what God says about those things. So when God says you have to confess the Lord and believe God raised Him from the dead to be saved, you have to admit that's true and agree you can't be saved without doing that.

We know that this confessing doesn't need to be done with your *literal* “mouth” (Rom.10:9) else mutes couldn't be

saved. Believing “in thine heart” is another figure of speech for believing with your mind (cf.Dan.5:20).

Even some grace believers don't like Romans 10:9 because they think it sounds like Matthew 10:32,33, which they think is talking about losing your salvation. We know that salvation can't be lost by denying Christ for members of the Body of Christ, for we are members of “Himself” (IITim.2:13). But we know it couldn't be lost in Israel because *Peter* denied Him. No, Matthew 10:32,33 are *gospel verses*, they are saying what *the Jews* had to believe and con-fess to be saved—that Jesus is the Christ (Jo.20:31;IJo.4:15). God said that Jesus was His Son (Mt.3:17) and if you were a Jew living then you had to confess that to be saved.

People who *didn't* confess that weren't Christians, they were *antiChristians* (IIJo.1:7). When Antichrist claims to be Israel's Christ in the Tribulation, to confess *that* Jews will have to *deny* that *Jesus* is the Christ. That's why the Lord said if they denied Him that He'd deny them, for confessing Antichrist and taking his mark will damn their souls. He was just giving them the terms of salvation. And that's what Romans 10:9 is doing too. Only now the terms include believing God raised the Lord from the dead.

Other grace believers don't like Romans 10:9 because it doesn't mention the Lord *died for our sins* like ICorinthians 15:3,4. But Romans 10:9 identifies *which* Christ died for our sins, something that will be important when Antichrist dies and rises again (Rev.13:1-3). No one verse teaches any doctrine, not even the doctrine of the gospel of salvation. By time you read Romans 10:9 Paul assumes you've read 3-5.

Other grace believers don't like Romans 10:9 because they know Romans 9-11 is about Israel, but Romans 9 is about Israel's past, Romans 10 is about her present, and Romans 11 is about her future, so 10:9 must be something we can *presently* use to give the gospel. Paul calls Romans 10:9 “the word of faith, which we preach” (v.8).

The only thing different about Romans 10:9 is that Paul is explaining it in terms a Jew would understand. Romans 10:8 is quoting Deuteronomy 30:14 where it says the law of Moses was in their mouth and heart. But the law spoke of Christ (John 5:46). If the Jews would just confess that Jesus is the Lord they were looking for, they could be saved.

# Faith Bible Church

[www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com](http://www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com)

March 10, 2019

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

*Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart*

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

*Pastor Ricky Kurth*

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

*Myrtle Harrison*

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

*Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger*

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