

Romans 10:13-14
WITHIN THE CONTEXT

INTRODUCTION: This is a most misused text. It is seldom rightly divided as - *II Timothy 2:15* says we should.

Some basic understandings of the Scriptures are necessary to understand this text. In this message we shall endeavor to show you the truth of this passage in its proper perspective.

I. LET ME FIRST SHOW YOU THE WAY THIS SCRIPTURE IS SO COMMONLY MISUSED:

A. Many Use This Verse In An Effort To Show A Lost Man How He May Have Eternal Life. In other words they tell the lost sinner to call upon the name of the Lord to be saved.

1. The sinner's prayer began with this verse.
2. Also the idea of "praying through."

B. The Very Next Verse Strongly Disproves This Interpretation Of The Verse:

1. **Romans 10:14**
 - a. Next words are - **"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?"**
 - b. A person would do well to try and answer that question.
2. The point Paul is making is that they cannot call upon Him in whom they have never believed.

C. Nowhere In The Scriptures Is A Lost Sinner Ever Asked To Pray That He Might Have Eternal Life.

1. A lost sinner cannot pray or call upon the Lord at all; it is well established in the Bible.
 - a. **John 9:31 - "Now we know that God hearth not sinners..."**
 - b. **Ezekiel 20:31 - God tells wicked Israel, "As I live, saith the Lord God, I will not be enquired of by you."**
 - c. **Proverbs 15:29.**
 - d. **Job 27:8-9 - Job shows that God will not hear the cry of wicked hypocrites.**
 - e. Of wicked men, David said in - **Ps. 18:41 "They cried, but there was none to save them: even unto the Lord, but he answered them not."**
2. Solomon made it clear that God will not honor the prayer of unconverted men when he said in - **Pro. 15:8 "The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord."**

D. The Only Thing That God Tells Lost Sinners To Do Is Believe On The Lord Jesus Christ.

1. **John 5:24 - "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that hearth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life."**
2. **John 3:36**
3. **Acts 16:31 - Paul said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."**

4. I challenge anyone to show that God ever originated any other method for justifying the lost except faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

E. Except A Sinner Believes There Is Absolutely No Hope For Him.

1. Listen to the Word of God:
 - a. **John 3:36** - Jesus says, "**He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**"
 - b. **John 3:18**
 - c. **John 8:24**
 - d. **II Thess. 1:8**
2. Regardless of whatever else you do, including praying, you shall die a hell-bound sinner if you do not believe in Jesus Christ,
 - a. **Acts 4:12**
 - b. **John 14:6**

F. One Thing Is Certain, This Scripture (nor any other) Is Not Telling Any Lost Sinner What He Must Do To Have Eternal Life.

II. TO UNDERSTAND THIS SCRIPTURE PROPERLY YOU MUST REALIZE THAT THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF BEING SAVED IN THREE DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT SENSES:

A. It Speaks Of Being Saved From The Penalty Of Sin, Which Was Accomplished Through Christ Dying For Us On The Cross As Our Substitute:

1. This is missing Hell and gaining Heaven.
2. Note the Bible:
 - a. **John 5:24**
 - b. **John 3:36**
 - c. **John 3:16**

B. It Also Speaks Of Being Saved From The Power Of Sin Which Is Accomplished Through Christ Living In Us And The Power Of The Holy Spirit Working In Us.

1. This is having the strength to live an honest and upright life in this world, despite the temptations of Satan.
2. Note the Bible:
 - a. **Philippians 2:12**
 - b. **James 1:25**
 - c. **Romans 6:13**

C. Then The Bible Speaks Of Being Saved From The Presence Of Sin Which Shall Be Accomplished Through Christ Returning For Us.

1. This is the day when He shall return and we shall be caught up to Heaven and will live in a world or sin no more.
2. Note the Bible:
 - a. **Romans 5:9**
 - b. **Philippians 3:21**
 - c. **Revelation 21:4**

D. Whenever, You Hear The Bible Refer To Being Saved, You Must Understand The Sense In Which It Is Being Used If You Are To Understand The Truth Of The Verse.

1. This is rightly dividing the Word of Truth.
2. If you don't do this, you are likely to use a scripture which is showing a believer how to be saved from the temptations of old Satan, to try and show a man who is lost how to be saved from Hell.

III. THIS TEXT IS NOT A SCRIPTURE SHOWING A LOST SINNER HOW TO BE SAVED FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN; IT IS A SCRIPTURE SHOWING THE BELIEVER HOW TO BE SAVED FROM THE ATTACKS OF SATAN UPON HIS CHRISTIAN LIFE:

A. That Is In Absolute Harmony With The Teachings Of The Word Of God.

1. To Christians out of fellowship with God, he says call upon him:
 - a. ***1 John 1:8-9***
 - b. ***Psalm 51:4*** - That is what David did to get right with God.
2. The right of prayer is the exclusive right of believers:
 - a. ***John 9:31*** says - "***If any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.***"
 - b. ***Proverbs 15:8*** - says, "***The prayer of the upright is his delight.***"
 - c. ***Ps. 145:18*** - "***The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth.***"

B. What A Blessed Privilege For A Son Of God:

1. To call on Him and find His grace is sufficient for every Christian – ***II Corinthians 12:9.***
2. David gives us a great example of this truth in - ***Psalm 22:12-21.***
3. The havocs of Satan are sometimes too great to bear; but then we can run to God in prayer:
 - a. ***Psalm 46:1*** - "***God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.***"
 - b. It is truly a great truth that Paul is pointing out in - ***Romans 10:13.***