

## Principle #5: Identify Possible Interpretations that Align with Scripture

### A. Concerns Eternal Salvation

- Paul already argued for belief alone for salvation (3:21-4:25)
- Paul is leveraging the terms from Deut 30 to make his point
- Paul reverses the order from v.9 to v.10 making them identical
- Paul reverts back a single step in v.11
- “The response of the heart and mouth are both used to represent the simplicity of faith as opposed to the strenuous effort required by those who try to establish their own righteousness (cf. v.3).” (Bing, 122)
- “Lord Jesus”: Paul is speaking of the objective lordship of Christ.

### B. Concerns Temporal Deliverance

- “It is argued that ‘salvation’ in vv. 9-10 is not justification (signified by ‘believes to righteousness’ in v 10), but deliverance from power of sin and its consequence of God’s temporal wrath. They apply here the general meaning of soteria/sozo which is often used of temporal deliverance in the Bible.” (Bing, 124)

### C. Concerns Israel’s National Righteousness

- “...throughout Rom 9–11, Paul is focusing not on personal, individual regeneration of Jewish believers, but the ultimate and final Messianic deliverance that comes at the end of the Tribulation, at the time the Messiah returns to rescue Israel from otherwise certain annihilation.” (Dean, p. 8)
- “According to these verses, in order to be saved (contextually meaning to be delivered from a physical catastrophe), Israel will need to respond to Jesus’ claim to be the God-Man Messiah. As a nation, they must reverse course and publicly admit Jesus is the Sovereign God and then they will be delivered. Rom 10:9-10 is not talking about personal justification, but emphasizes the final rescue of national Israel on the basis of their recognition of the deity of Christ and His substitutionary atonement for their sin. Paul states this as a universal principle to show that in the same way that confession of Jesus as God and trusting Him leads to the national deliverance of Israel, so this same trust in Jesus by all, including Gentiles, can lead to their deliverance from God’s wrath, divine judgment in time, as well.” (Dean, p.12)

#### RESOURCES:

**Lordship Salvation: A Biblical Evaluation and Response**, Charles C. Bing (GraceLife,2020) Web Ver: <https://www.gracelife.org/reources/lordshipsalvation/>

**Believe and Confess: Does the Bible Teach a Two-Step Way to Salvation?**, Robert Dean, <https://deanbibleministries.org/dbmfiles/notes/2015-ChaferConf-008-Dean-Paper.pdf>

## Lordship Salvation #9: A Summary of Romans 10:9-10

<sup>9</sup> that if you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe** in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one **believes** unto righteousness, and with the mouth **confession is made** unto salvation.

### Principle #1: Clear texts take precedent over unclear texts.

The Bible teaches with many clear texts that salvation is by the single act of believing on Jesus, God’s Son and our substitute. (e.g. John 3:16-18,36; John 5:24; Acts 16:30-31; Rom 3:22; 4:3-5; Gal 2:16)

### Principle #2: Contexts must be understood to accurately interpret.

All contexts must be understood **before** any passage can be interpreted.

#### A. Romans 10:9-10 Compared to the Context of the Bible:

- The meaning must **correlate** (fit in) with the rest of Scripture.
- **No extra steps** to salvation can be possible.
- No righteousness without salvation or the opposite (v.10)
- Rom 1:16-17 combines both ideas “to everyone who believes”

#### B. Romans 10:9-10 in the Context of the Book of Romans:

- **Condemnation:** The Need for the Righteousness of God (1-3:20)
- **Salvation:** God Provides His Righteousness (3:21-5:21)
- **Sanctification:** God Applies Righteousness to Living (6-8)
- **Vindication:** God’s Righteousness and Israel (9-11)
- **Application:** God’s Righteousness for Service (12-16)

#### C. Romans 10:9-10 in Its Immediate Context of Romans 10:

- This passage (like many) is usually quoted **without** its context.
- Romans 10:9-10 is **preceded** by 8 verses (just in this chapter)!
- Romans 10:9 begins with “that...” which looks **back** to context!

<sup>1</sup> Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be **SAVED**. <sup>2</sup> For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. <sup>3</sup> For they being ignorant of God’s **righteousness**, and seeking to establish their own **righteousness**, have not submitted to the **righteousness** of God. <sup>4</sup> For Christ is the end of the **law** for **righteousness** to everyone who **believes**.

<sup>5</sup> For Moses writes about the **righteousness** which is of the **law**, “The man who **does** those things shall live by them.” <sup>6</sup> But the **righteousness** of **faith** speaks in this way, “Do not say in your **heart**, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down from above) <sup>7</sup> or, “Who will descend into the abyss?” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? “THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, in your **mouth** and in your **heart**” (that is, the WORD of **faith** which we preach): <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your **mouth** the Lord Jesus and **believe** in your **heart** that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be **SAVED**. <sup>10</sup> For with the **heart** one **believes** unto **righteousness**, and with the **mouth** confession is made unto **SALVATION**. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, “Whoever **believes** on Him will not be put to shame.”

## D. Context of the Passages Referred to in Romans 10

### Verse 5

Lev 18:5 You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, which if a man does, he shall live by them: I am the LORD. (cf. Ezek 20:11-25)

### Verses 6-10 (Deuteronomy 30:11-20)

<sup>11</sup> "For this commandment which I command you today *is* not *too* mysterious for you, nor *is* it far off. <sup>12</sup> "It *is* not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and **do** it?' <sup>13</sup> "Nor *is* it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and **do** it?' <sup>14</sup> "But THE WORD *IS* VERY NEAR YOU, in your **mouth** and in your **heart**, that you may **do** it. <sup>15</sup> "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, <sup>16</sup> "in that I command you today to **love** the LORD your God, to **walk** in His ways, and to **keep** His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, **that** you may **live** and **multiply**; and the LORD your God will  **bless** you in the land which you go to possess.

<sup>17</sup> "But if your **heart** turns away so that you do not hear, and are **drawn away**, and **worship** other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> "I announce to you today **that** you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong *your* days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess. <sup>19</sup> "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, **that** both you and your descendants may live; <sup>20</sup> "that you may **love** the LORD your God, that you may **obey** His voice, and **that** you may **cling** to Him, for He *is* your life and the length of your days; and **that** you may **dwell** in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."

### Verse 11

Isa 28:16 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily.

## Principle #3: Make Clear Observations of the Romans 10:9-10 Text

### v. 9 expresses simple actions

**that if you [would] confess with your mouth** (aorist subjunctive)

**the Lord Jesus** (lit. "Lord Jesus")

**and [would] believe in your heart** (aorist subjunctive)

**that God has raised Him from the dead** (activity|what Jesus did|died/rose)

**you will be saved** (certain result)

### v. 10 expresses ongoing activity (obedience/sanctification not salvation?)

**For in heart is being believed** (present indicative passive)

**unto righteousness** (positional or functional righteousness?)

**and in mouth is being confessed** (present indicative passive)

**unto salvation** (eternal salvation or ongoing sanctification?)

### v. 11 expresses ongoing belief (possibly for sanctification / obedience)

**For the Scripture says**, (cf. Isa 28:16)

**"Whoever is believing on Him** (present – ongoing reliance on God)

**will not be put to shame."** (certain promise for ongoing reliance)

## Romans 10:9-10 – Outline & Literal Translation

<p>ὅτι ἐὰν ὁμολογήσῃς ἐν τῷ στόματι σου κύριον Ἰησοῦν καὶ πιστεύσῃς ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ σου ὅτι ὁ θεὸς αὐτὸν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν, σωθήσῃ. καρδίᾳ γὰρ πιστεύεται εἰς δικαιοσύνην, στόματι δὲ ὁμολογεῖται εἰς σωτηρίαν.</p>	<p>That if <b>you would confess</b> (x) in the <b>mouth</b> of you Lord Jesus And <b>you would believe</b> (x) in the <b>heart</b> of you that the God him raised out of dead you will be saved For in <b>heart</b> <b>it is being believed</b> unto righteousness, and in <b>mouth</b> <b>it is being confessed</b> unto salvation. (1 Jn 1:9?)</p>
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## Principle #4: Seek to Define the Terms Used as They Are Used

### A. Confess (homologeō): Used to refer to Jesus' identity – WHO He Is

John 9:22 His parents said these *things* because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone **confessed** *that* He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue.

1 John 2:23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who **acknowledges** the Son has the Father also.

1 John 4:2-3 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that **confesses** that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, <sup>3</sup> and every spirit that **does not confess** that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

1 John 4:15 Whoever **confesses** that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

2 John 1:7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world who **do not confess** Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

### B. Save (sodzo): At least 4 different uses – eternal salvation = 35%

*Eternal salvation* (37); *Sanctification* (9); *Mixed* (4); *Uncertain* (3)

*Other than Spiritual* (53)

*from water dangers* (4); *from sickness* (16); *from end-time persecution* (6); *from meaninglessness* (6); *from physical death* (20); *from national slavery* (1).