

ROMANS: God's Saving Promises

"Excuses When There Are None"

Romans 10:18-21

September 29, 2024

Introduction

T. S. Eliot was certainly right when he wrote that humankind cannot bear much reality. I believe this gives insight into why excuses flow freely from our hearts and through our mouths every time we come face to face with reality.

We don't have to look further in the human story than the Garden of Eden to find the first excuse. Following the catastrophe of disobedience, Adam quickly blamed Eve, but ultimately God, for his failure to obey the command of the Lord, *"The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate"* (Gen. 3:12).

Excuses are a hallmark of the fallen human heart, and they seem to gush from our mouths. It has been said that an excuse is the skin of reason stuffed with a lie. We are skilled at justifying our behavior:

- I just can't get along with my wife
- I can't stop overeating
- I can't quit gossiping
- I can't stop getting drunk
- I can't bring spiritual habits into my life because of my schedule.

However, the worst excuses come concerning our rejection of God and His ways. This was the apostle Paul's concern about Israel's unbelief. On a large scale, the Jews did not receive Jesus Christ as their promised Messiah. In Romans 9-11, Paul is thinking deeply about his fellow Jews whom he loved greatly. After all, Paul was Jewish, and he was not nominal in his past religious observance. Paul was steeped in Judaism and meticulous in his observance of the Law. As he closes Romans 10, he highlights common excuses for unbelief and exposes them for what they are...empty and hopeless.

~Romans 10:18-21

I. “We Didn’t H_____ You” (18)

Psalm 19

II. “We Didn’t U_____ You” (19)

Ignorance is not an excuse

III. “We Didn’t W_____ You” (20-21)

Human Pride is Offended by Grace.

God’s Sovereignty and Human Responsibility

Beautiful Feet to the end

Conclusion

What excuses are you using for why you have not believed in Jesus Christ as your only Lord and Savior? God is speaking continuously, abundantly, and universally through the work of His Son, Jesus Christ. With love and grace, He extends His grace to you right now. Will receive Him?