

The Simple Gospel for the Religiously Lost
Romans 10:1-13
December 11, 2022

John Bunyan - at the gates of heaven they ask you for a certificate.

I am passing out certificates for the gates of heaven today.

There are those in the church that are religiously lost.

They had the truth of the gospel surrounding them, but they did not see it.

The Ignorant Zeal of the Religiously Lost (v 1-4)

Paul begins by telling them that he loves them.

Many are too busy being religious to rest in the shade of Christ.

Have you ever seen ignorant, misguided zeal?

Are you trying to be perfect so God will like you?

Christ is the end of the law (v 4)

Christ has abolished the law as a means of salvation.

The OT law was given in a context of grace and to a redeemed people.

The love of God is the root of our salvation, not anything in us.

Imagine a boy with his hand in a jar and gripping a Snickers.

We need to be saved from our sin and from our righteousness.

The Confusion of the Religiously Lost (v 5-7)

God is not telling us, *keep the law and I will save you.*

Too many use the Law as a means of salvation instead of a guide to gratitude.

The Word is near you.

Where shall I find the truth? (v 6-7)

Who will go to heaven and bring it down for me?

Who will go to the abyss?

We do not have to search anymore. Truth stands right before us.

Hope for the Religiously Lost (v 8-13)

The simple gospel. The full forgiveness and perfect righteousness of God.

This is the certificate that you present at the gates of heaven.

Christ's blood and righteousness are freely offered to you.

Trust him. And be at rest.