

“A HEART’S DESIRE FOR MISSIONS”
ROMANS 10:1-4

INTRO: Over the years of my ministry I have often wondered why many Christians and many good churches have not really been motivated to get involved in missions. But in reading Romans 10:1-4 the answer as to why ANY ONE is motivated to be involved in missions is clearly seen through the testimony of the Apostle Paul. What we see from this text is that **INVOLVEMENT IN MISSIONS IS A MATTER OF THE HEART OF THE INDIVIDUAL!** When one’s heart is aligned with the Word of God concerning the condition of the LOST and the reality of the GREAT COMMISSION, then one will also be involved in missions. So let’s examine this passage and as we do let’s each ask the question: **“IS MY HEART ALIGNED WITH THE HEART OF GOD CONCERNING THE MATTER OF MISSIONS?”**

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NOTE: In this passage the Apostle Paul is speaking about his deep desire to see HIS OWN PEOPLE, ISRAEL, come to the knowledge of the Lord. His desire to see the people of Israel get saved was beyond a surface desire. Observe Romans 9:1-5.

NOTE: According to the sovereign plan of God, Israel will be saved which Paul rejoiced over. Observe Romans 25-27.

NOTE: Paul’s desire for Israel to get saved has some personal challenges and lessons for us to consider as well. Let’s study the text and draw out some personal and practical applications to the HEART’S DESIRE FOR MISSIONS.

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I. A DEFINITE GROUP TO CONSIDER

“BRETHREN”

A. Paul was speaking to the believers at Rome who were no doubt both converted Jews and Gentiles. But he was sharing with them his desire to see Israel saved. NO DOUBT HE WAS EXPRESSING HIS DESIRE AS A MATTER OF SHARING INFORMATION AND REQUESTING PRAYER.

B. Regarding the “BRETHREN AROUND US,” in our day here is a question to consider: **“DO THEY KNOW OUR BURDEN FOR THE LOST AND THE DESIRE TO SEE PEOPLE SAVED?”**

1. The lost of our own families
2. The lost of our community
3. The lost of our nation
4. The lost of our world

C. How would the “BRETHREN AROUND US” know our burden for the lost?

1. Our speech?
2. Our prayers?
3. Our actions?

ILLUSTRATION:

II. A DEEP DESIRE TO MAINTAIN

“MY HEART’S DESIRE”

A. Paul had the deepest of all desires to see the lost saved.

B. Two questions to consider:

1. Why should we have a desire to see the lost saved?
 - a. Because the lost cannot save themselves.
 - b. Because the lost are under Satan’s bondage.
 - c. Because the lost are doomed to hell.
2. How do we know if we have a desire to see the lost saved?

THIS QUESTION IS DESIGNED TO GET US TO THINK ABOUT OUR PERSONAL DESIRE.

- a. We know if we regularly pray for the lost. DO YOU?
- b. We know if we reach out to people daily. DO YOU?
- c. We know if we evangelize the lost. DO YOU?
- d. We know if we support evangelistic and mission endeavors.
DO YOU?

ILLUSTRATION:

III. A DIRECTED PRAYER TO OFFER

“PRAYER TO GOD”

A. The Prayer of Paul concerning King Agrippa – Acts 26:29

B. The Prayer of the Need for Laborers – Matthew 9:36,37

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. A DETERMINED GOAL TO ACHIEVE

“MIGHT BE SAVED”

- A. This Goal is the Heart of Missions
- B. This Goal is the Mission of the Church
- C. This Goal is the Desire of God
- D. This Goal is the Practice of the Obedient

ILLUSTRATION:

APPLICATION/LESSON:

OBEDIENT CHRISTIANS AND LOCAL CHURCHES WILL SEE THAT THEIR HEART IS IN MISSIONS WITH THE DESIRE TO SEE THE LOST COME TO CHRIST!