

NAR Error #4 using Romans 10:8 (in your mouth)

In this NAR series, we want to prayerfully and humbly look at the verses being used out of context, which creates a danger of slightly moving away from the actual scriptural context.

*Of course, we have authority in Christ and His Word, but it is not ours to "command at will", Matthew 6 says **THY** will be done, not mine and of course we can use verses independently.*

Bible Verse used: Romans 10:8 *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):*

Teachers and networks tied to the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) and the broader Word of Faith (WoF) movement use Romans 10:8 frequently to justify the practice of "speaking healing" or making "positive declarations" over physical illnesses.

While traditional Christian theology interprets this verse within the framework of salvation, NAR and Word of Faith contexts apply a highly specific metaphysical interpretation to the text.

How the NAR / Word of Faith Interprets Romans 10:8

Instead of viewing the "word of faith" simply as the Gospel message about Christ, it is often treated as a spiritual principle or a tool. Under this view, faith is a force, and words are the containers that release that force into the physical world.

NAR culture relies heavily on declarative prayer (*decreeing and declaring*) rather than petitionary prayer (*asking God if it is His will*). Teachers use this verse to argue that because the word is "in your mouth," a believer has the spiritual obligation and authority to speak healing, wealth, or breakthrough into existence.

Adherents are taught that speaking to a sickness (e.g., commanding cancer to leave) or verbally confessing "I am healed by His stripes" activates the spiritual realm to manifest physical healing. *Conversely*, speaking about symptoms or acknowledging an illness is often discouraged as a "*negative confession*" that can block the healing.

The Original Biblical Context of Romans 10:8

When examined through historical and textual hermeneutics, mainstream biblical scholars point out that Paul's argument in Romans 10 has nothing to do with physical healing or the metaphysical power of human words:

A Contrast with the Law: In Romans 10, the Apostle Paul is quoting Deuteronomy 30:14 (*But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it*) to contrast the impossibility of saving oneself by keeping the Old Testament Law with the ease of receiving salvation through faith.

The Accessibility of Salvation: Paul's point is that a person does not need to perform impossible feats, like ascending to heaven or descending into the abyss, to find Christ. The message of salvation is right in front of them; it is "near".

Defined by Verse 9: Paul immediately clarifies exactly what he means by the word being "*in your mouth and in your heart*" in the very next verse (Romans 10:9): "*that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*"

Summary of the Shift

In the original text, the "mouth and heart" are the human mechanisms for receiving and confessing the lordship of Jesus Christ for eternal salvation. In NAR/Word of Faith application, this concept is shifted so that the "mouth and heart" become mechanisms for releasing spiritual power to alter physical reality and command divine healing.