

The Book of Romans

SECTION FIVE

Chapter's 9 Through 11

THE SPECIAL PLACE OF THE JEWS

In This Section of Romans, we will see the following Truths:

- 1. God is Not Through With the Jewish People - His Promises are True**
- 2. Israel Still Needs the Gospel Just as Gentiles Do**
- 3. Israel is the Key to all of God's Promises and Plans**

The Book of Romans

Chapter Nine - The Position of Israel

I. Introduction - Greatest Book in the New Testament for the Christian!

This one Book in your Bible condenses down into 16 chapters the greatest themes of all humanity - the themes of sin, judgment, justification, sanctification, victory, eternal security, and service!

II. Book Review So Far - *There are Six Sections to Romans*

A. SECTION ONE - **Dealing With Sin** - Chapters 1 & 2

Chapter 1. **The Righteousness and Wrath of God** - Describes the condition of the human heart in very vivid terms - as depraved (ruined utterly in character or quality)!

Chapter 2. **The Sin of Self-Righteousness** - There are so many people who look at the list and find some way of excusing THEMSELVES, and looking down at OTHERS - "civilised" vs "heathen" and the lower classes

B. SECTION TWO - **Our Great Salvation** - Chapters 3-5 (*Justification*)

Chapter 3. The fact of There Being No Difference - No Excuses

Chapter 4. How To Become Strong in Faith

Chapter 5. The Benefits of Salvation

C. SECTION THREE - **The Christians' Sanctification** - Chapters 6-7

D. SECTION FOUR - **The Beliver's Security in Christ** - Chapter 8

1. Christ Effect on the Life of the Believer (1-17)

a. The Christians' New Walk (8:1-4) Without Condemnation

b. The Christians' New Mind (8:5-8) - After the Spirit

c. The Christians' New Helper (8:9-11,14) - The Holy Spirit

d. The Christians' New Obligation (8:12,13,14) - to Serve

e. The Christians' New Relationship (8:15-17) - Adopted!

2. God's Secure Investment in the Life of the Believer (8:18-39)

a. We are secure because he wont let us down - Wont let us fall

b. We are secure because God has the Holy Spirit making up for what we cannot do as Christians

c. We are secure because God's plan doesn't change

d. We are secure because God's love never changes (8:35-39)

E. We now come to SECTION FIVE of the Book of Romans - The **Special Place** that Israel has in God's overall plan. This will explain a lot of the background to the history in the Middle East, and help us Gentiles understand the level of God's commitment to us!

III. Focus Verse: Romans 9:3

IV. Study Outline of Romans Chapter Nine - The _____ of the Jews

A. **The Special Place of the Jews in Paul's _____** (9:1-3)

1. Paul loved his own people - was nationalistic

2. Paul was burdened, worried, grieved for them - their destiny - lost

3. Paul was _____ - to take their punishment if it were possible, so that they would be spared (John 15:13)

a. He knew the joy, peace, richness of salvation and forgiveness

b. Paul wanted desperately for all Israel to know it as well

c. This is why he went from village to village preaching the Gospel, because it was so wonderful to him!

d. Paul was just experiencing what Christ felt for the lost when He gave His life so freely to become a curse for us!

B. **The Special Place of the Jews in God's _____** (9:4-18)

1. God's plan involves investment. God invested heavily in Israel (9:4,5) - they had special advantages:
 - a. They are _____ - of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel)
 - b. To them belongs the _____ - they were offered it first - to become adopted from out of the world, and into God's family
 - c. To them belongs the _____ - God's presence, and the glory of being God's special trophy of love and redemption
 - d. To them belongs the _____ - the majority of commitments that God made in the Bible, were made to the Jewish people: ie, the land of Palestine
 - e. To them was the _____ given - the Bible is a Jewish Book, received by the Jews, and preserved by the Jews
 - f. To them was given the _____ as priests. The only valid priests were Jewish priests
 - g. To them belongs the _____: ie, of a coming kingdom, with the Messiah reigning from Jerusalem!
 - h. They had "_____ " or the lineage of people who lived by faith as listed in Heb 11
 - i. To them _____ came! Not to the British, Americans, or Irish!

All of the above has also been invested into every believer's life!

2. God's plan works through faith, in spite of supposed failure (6-18)
 - a. The word and work of God always has an effect (Isa 55:10,11)
 - b. Just being physically born to Jacob (Israel) did not make a person the recipient of God's blessings. God's spiritual blessings are not inherited from parents (John 1:11-13; 8:33-44)
 - c. God used a "seed" line (9:7-10) that wended its way through generations completely on the basis of faith. This line is listed in Matthew 1 where a harlot is listed, a Gentile woman, etc:
 - 1) Abraham started the line, had two boys: Ishmael, _____
 - 2) _____ was the boy that God knew would respond - had two boys: Esau and _____
 - 3) _____ was a worthless sinner, until the night he wrestled with God and came away humbled, and completely dependent upon God - He had twelve sons
 - 4) _____ was the son that God used and brought Christ through
 - d. God's _____ is the key to His choice (9:7-13). Election is God making a choice of whom He is going to accept and bless. God's choice is based upon "*foreknowledge*" not pre-determined "fate." No such thing as "_____." You cannot get elected (chosen by God) until you have made your own choice (John 3:18; Eph 1:11-13)! God's foreknowledge is based upon knowing what we will choose. His election is determining what choice ought to be made.
 - 1) God makes a prediction in Gen 25:23 knowing how things will work out (9:11,12)
 - 2) God states His conclusion 1,300 years later in Mal 1:2,3 that He had been right all along!
 - 3) God did not "fix-it" so that Esau would not be able to get right - the fact is that God *knew* that Esau would not!
 - e. Why God cannot be blamed for Ishmael (Arabs), for Esau's rebellion (Edomites), or for Pharaoh's rejection etc (9:14-17):
 - 1) God extends His mercy to whom He wants (9:15) - it is not arbitrary. Based upon a person's response to God (Ps 18:26; Pr 1:24) God's terms. God reserves the right to withhold heaven from flesh, unless the person gets "born-again" (Mk 2:17).
 - 2) No one can just chose (will) to get saved on their own terms (9:16). You have to respond on God's terms (Rom 10:6-10) and THEN you are saved (10:13)!
 - 3) Pharaoh is an example of God raising up (Promoting) a king that God knew would not respond to His word (9:17; Ex 3:19). Proved that God was mightier than any human leader! Notice that God had to harden Pharaoh BECAUSE he had free-will, and that free will had already acted. God placed Pharaoh in power already knowing what Pharaoh would do!
 - 4) It also demonstrated that God hardens hearts that do not respond to His working in them (Ex 4:21; 8:15,32; 9:12). See also 2 Thes 2:10-12 for the future!
 - 5) The hardening of the heart is to force the person to reveal openly what already was in the heart (Jer 17:9)!

3. God's plan is " _____ " so that no one can "adjust it" (9:18-23)
 - a. If God hardens a heart, it is then because it has already decided its own fate (Rom 1:18-24)!
 - b. Resisting God's will (9:19) is when an unbeliever thinks that they can resist God's laws, and can come up with "another way" to heaven - they are resisting God's "will" - His plan. The problem is, if God gave man free-will, how come God finds fault with man deciding his own course? Simply, God is damning those who reject His Son! And He is right to do so!
 - c. God's plan (9:20,21) is compared to the Potter (God) and the clay (human character) - see also Jer 18. The clay does not represent our "will" but the " _____ " that God is wanting to develop inside the person - we are born with our image ruined by sin. God works to "conform our image" to that of His Son (Rom 8:28,29).
 - d. The unsaved cannot reply against God just because he or she is damned. They must receive the cure, instead of complain about the disease! If they don't get saved, they are "fitted" (prepared) for destruction (hell; John 3:36).
 - e. The Christian cannot reply against God because he or she is uncomfortable in how God is working in their lives - God's plan is the best - "prepared unto glory" (heaven) - it cannot be beaten - as is demonstrated countless times throughout Scripture (ex: Joseph, Noah, Abraham, Paul, etc).
 - f. God will use the wrath of man, and turn it around for His honour (as with Pharaoh). God will use the faith of man to bring Him glory (as with Moses; 9:23)

C. The Opportunity is Open to All People Everywhere (9:24-33)

1. The conclusion could be that the Jews don't seem to have any part in God's current work (9:24-29)
 - a. Going back through, it would seem that Israel is now "out" of God's plan - they rejected Christ, and God's word - and that we "Gentiles" are "in"
 - b. Yet we Christians are made up of both Jews and Gentiles
 - c. The number of believing Jews is small compared to the Gentiles - referred to as "the remnant"
 - d. People who had never heard of Christ and God Almighty get saved by the multitudes, while the Jews respond in the smallest of numbers (9:25-27). Refs to Hosea 2:23; 1:10
 - e. The short *work* here (9:28) is only **7,000** years long from start to finish! And throughout it God is going to show His: holiness, mercy, vengeance, wrath, love, anger, goodness, longsuffering, and His patience.
 - f. The only reason why any Jew is able to get saved in because the Lord goes out of His way to encourage them to turn back to Him (9:29) - God has done this for all people, throughout all time, but specially the Jews - He is completely set against people having to die like Sodom and Gomorra did (Jude 1:7).
 - g. The Lord of "Sabaoth" means the Lord of _____, and as Lord, He does everything possible to make sure He always is "represented" among all people - He makes sure that there are "ambassadors" in every country (2Cor 5:20; Rev 5:9)
2. So the plan was far bigger than just dealing with the Jews, and hardening their hearts, as God does other hearts that are hard already. The plan included us! The plan was open for **all** to enter in by **faith** (9:30-33)! *No predestination here!* The conclusion is:
 - a. The ungodly Gentiles have obtained righteousness - by FAITH
 - 1) Faith is not blind, but surrendered to God's way of doing things - to live by faith is to follow God's word - all of it!
 - 2) The Gentiles found salvation because they accepted God's way - the way of the Lamb for the lost!
 - b. The "godly" Jews missed righteousness - because they sought it by good works, and not by faith - they rejected God's way!
 - c. Salvation is in the _____ - Jesus Christ (Mt 16:18), not Peter!
 - 1) How you react to the **Stone** determines your _____ (John 1:12; 1 John 5:11,12;)
 - 2) Either Jesus is the **Rock** of your salvation (Ps 18:2; 62:2,6; 95:1) or the Stumblingstone of your damnation (9:32,33; 1Pet 2:6-8). That's why we preach Christ!

V. Study Questions