

ROMANS 9:1-13

REVIEW...

- **OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF ROMANS...**

- **CHAPTERS 1-8** - The doctrine of Salvation - by grace through faith in Jesus Christ...
 - **Romans 1:17** - For the just shall live by faith....
 - **Romans 1:18-3:20** - All of us are sinners - all of us will be judged for our sin...
 - **Romans 3:21-5:21** - All can be saved - righteousness by grace through faith in Jesus!
 - **Romans 6:1-23** - The problem of sin - we cannot go on sinning as we did before Jesus...
 - **Romans 7:1-25** - We are the problem - Flesh vs. Spirit - we sin because we want to...
 - **Romans 8:1-13** - The 'power' to overcome sin - by walking in the Spirit...
 - 1st - There is no condemnation - no judgment because of God's gift of righteousness...
 - 2nd - Therefore we should choose to walk in the Spirit - God changes our heart...
 - **Romans 8:14-28** - The 'benefits' that come - by the walking in the Spirit...
 - 1st - We are the children of God - born again/adopted into the family of God
 - 2nd - Hope in time of suffering - nothing in this world compares to heaven...
 - 3rd - Help in weakness - God knows everything about us - all things work for good...
 - **Romans 8:29-39** - The 'confidence' that comes - by the walking in the Spirit...
 - 1st - We are predestined - chosen by God - to be changed and become like Jesus!
 - 2nd - God is for us - who can be against us - Jesus freely forgives us ALL things!
 - 3rd - Nothing can separate us from Jesus love...
 - Not hard circumstances - they actually draw us closer to Jesus!
 - Not death / spiritual powers / time - things present or to come / nothing at all!
- **CHAPTERS 9-11** - The example of salvation by faith - Israel vs. Gentiles...
 - The previous 8 chapters of Romans dealt with the doctrine of salvation by faith...
 - Chapters 9-11 - gives the contrast - Israel (*flesh/works*) - vs. - gentiles (*spirit/grace*)
 - Showing us by example we cannot be saved by works - only by faith in Jesus!
 - **Romans 9** - Israel trusted in their 'flesh' - their good works - so they were not saved
 - **Romans 10** - The gentiles trusted in Jesus - salvation by faith - so they were saved...
 - **Romans 11** - The restoration of the nation of Israel - when they turn back to Jesus...
- **CHAPTERS 12-16** - The application of our salvation - how to live our life as a Christian...

THE EXAMPLE OF ISRAEL... vs. 1-13

- **A HEAVY HEART... vs. 1-3**

- Paul's Love for Israel... vs. 1-3
 - Paul was an Israelite - called by God to be the Apostle to the Gentiles (*Peter to the Jews*)...
 - **I Timothy 2:7** - "I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, teacher of the Gentiles."
 - For that reason many Israelis questioned Paul's love for his people - **Acts 21:21**
 - Paul uses Israel in **Romans 9** as a negative example of trusting in works to be saved...
 - Perhaps reinforcing the perception he did not have a love for the Jewish people...
 - So Paul opens with a triple witness to his Love for His people - Israel...
 - I tell the truth in Christ / I am not lying / my conscience bears witness in the Spirit

- I have great sorrow - continual sorrow in my heart for Israel...
 - Paul knew the majority of the Jews had rejected Jesus as their Messiah (*savior*)
 - They trusted in the Law of Moses - good works - to get them into heaven...
 - Paul knew his fellow Jews - we destined for Hell - because they had rejected Jesus
 - **Galatians 2:16** - "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ."
 - Perhaps we can relate to Paul - we have family who do not have faith in Jesus...
 - Friends who think they 'might' get into heaven because of their 'good works'...
 - Those who believe in religion - no real relationship with God - empty rituals...
 - Our heart breaks for them - wishing they could have the abundant life in Jesus
- Paul was at the point of wishing - he would go to Hell - if they could go to heaven...
 - It was not possible - but out of a broken heart for his people - Paul almost wished
 - He loved the Jews so much there was nothing he would not do to help save them!
 - We see this in Paul's 3 missionary journeys in the book of Acts...
 - In every city Paul went into - the FIRST place he went was the Jewish synagogue...
 - Even if they beat him - tried to kill him - Paul came kept giving them the Gospel!
 - We know what happens to those who do not have faith in Jesus...
 - Can we say like Paul we would do almost anything to assure their salvation...
 - Are we bold - recognizing what is at stake - the urgency of the need for Jesus...
 - Or are we embarrassed - concerned about what they might say or think of us!
- NOT ALL ISRAEL - IS ISRAEL... vs. 4-13
 - Israel had it all... vs. 4-5
 - Israel had everything they needed - more than any other people - to be saved...
 - They were 'adopted' as the chosen people of God - **Deuteronomy 7:7**
 - They saw the 'glory' of God at Mt. Sinai - **Deuteronomy 5:24**
 - They received the 'covenants' from God - Abraham & Circumcision - **Genesis 15:18**
 - They were given the 'Law' of God - definition of 'good' - **Exodus 24:12**
 - They were called into the 'service' of God - **Exodus 23:25**
 - They received the 'promises' from God - **Jeremiah 31:31-33**
 - All of the prophets - all of the 'fathers' of the faith - were Israelites...
 - Even Jesus - according to the flesh (*Mary*) - was an Israelite!
 - Jesus who is over all - THE ETERNALLY BLESSED GOD...
 - Side note: Jesus was not just a man - Paul here blatantly confirms - Jesus is God!
 - The world is full of false faiths – posing to be from God – but denying the TRUE Jesus...
 - They talk about a Jesus – but they are cults – their Jesus is not THE Jesus of the Bible
 - They say Jesus is 'a god', or 'an angel', or 'just a man'...
 - But the Jesus of the Bible is THE ETERNALLY BLESSED GOD...
 - **I John 5:7** – "For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one."
 - **Titus 2:13** - "Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ..."
 - Don't be fooled by the counterfeits - the false religions - and the cults...
 - Jesus is God - and simply – only – by faith in Him – can we be saved!

- The point being Israel had it ALL - if anyone should have been saved - it was them!
 - They had God's Word - they had EVERY blessing - they should have believed...
 - But they did not - it is not that the word of God had no effect...
 - God's Word is powerful - it changes hearts - it transforms lives...
 - **Hebrews 4:12** - "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
 - **Romans 10:15** - "Faith come by hearing and hearing by the Word of God..."
 - But like a seed - the Word can only bring fruit when it falls on good soil...
 - If you take good seed and 'plant' it on a hardened road - it will not grow...
 - Take the same seed and put it in good soil - it bears a LOT of fruit...
 - It is not about the 'seed' (*Word of God*) it is about the soil (*hearts of men*)
 - God gave Israel GOOD seed - but not all of the people of Israel were GOOD soil...
 - Have you even noticed how one person is blessed by a Bible study...
 - While another - listening to the same Word - is bored - perhaps falling asleep...
 - It is not the Word of God that is the problem - it is the heart of the listener...
 - If your heart is not open - your ears will not listen - your eyes will not see - Jesus!
- Not everyone who is a Jew (*Israel*) is 'Governed by God' (*Israel*)... vs. 6
 - Just because someone was born an 'Israelite' does NOT mean they follow God...
 - The Jews assumed because they were 'Israelites' they were saved - going to heaven!
 - **Matthew 3:9** - "Do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones."
 - Just because someone is born in the Philippines - does not make them a Christian
 - If you father was a Christian - even if your grandfather was a pastor...
 - It is no assurance you will go to heaven - God has no grandkids - only children...
 - Just because someone goes to church - does not make them a Christian...
 - We can say all the right things to sound like a Christian - come to church every Sunday...
 - But it is not about what we say - or where we are it is about the actions from our lives
 - **John 8:39, 44** - "'Abraham is our father.' Jesus said to them, 'If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham... You are of your father the devil...'"
 - If you live like the devil - then it's a good bet you are not a child of God...
- In Isaac your children will be called... (*Son of the promise*)... vs. 7-9
 - Abraham was the father of 'Israel' - but Abraham had more than 1 son...
 - God had promised to give Abraham a son - but he was already 85 years old!
 - So he tried in his flesh to give God a 'helping hand' - he had Ishmael (*through Hagar*)
 - God did not even recognize Ishmael as Abraham's son - **Genesis 22:2**
 - The descendants of Ishmael were not God's chosen people - they were not 'Israel'...
 - The promise to be 'God's chosen' people only came through the son of Promise - Isaac!
 - At 100 years old - God did the impossible - He gave Abraham & Sarah a child...
 - God's chosen people came through Isaac - the child of Promise (*work of the Spirit*)
 - The picture being - God does not recognize a work of the flesh...
 - Those who try and be saved by good works 'flesh' - are not the children of God...
 - Only those who receive the promise of God - 'salvation by the spirit' - are saved!
- A similar example - Jacob vs. Esau... vs. 10-13...

- Isaac was the son of promise - but Isaac had more than 1 son - he had twins...
 - Before they were even born - having done neither good nor bad - God chose...
 - God knew everything about the two boys from the beginning – therefore he said...
 - 'Jacob have I loved, Esau have I hated' - **Malachi 1:2-3**
 - When we first look at the lives of these men this can seem confusing...
 - Esau seemed at first to have been a 'pleasant' enough guy - a hard working man
 - Yet looking at the life of Jacob - **Genesis 25-49** (*mentioned 164 times*)
 - He was not a nice guy – he cheated and lied his way through most of life
- Not by works - but of Him who calls...
 - But... God knew that Esau would be a worldly man – not interested in the Lord
 - God knew that Jacob – would be a man who would one day follow the Lord
 - God does not see us as we are today – God does not see us from the outside
 - God sees the heart - **I Samuel 16:7** – He sees us as we will be one day
 - How amazing that when God looks at us He does not see sinners...
 - He sees the saints that we will one day be – by the Grace of God!
 - The next time you look in the mirror and ask – why me God...
 - Remember God looks at a very different mirror – He looks at the heart
 - He looks at the man of God He is making us to be!
- Those who believe by faith - are the sons of promise - the chosen children of God...
 - Like Israel - it does not matter how much we think we have going for us - blessings...
 - It does not matter where we were born - it does not matter who our family is...
 - It does not even matter what we do - we are not saved by any of these things...
 - The children of God are those who believe - salvation by grace through faith in Jesus!