

3/22/20

Romans 9

“God is in Control”

Paul’s grief over Israel (1-3)

“For I wish that I myself were accused and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsman according to the flesh.” (3)

Paul’s burden was due to his people’s alienation from God.

The coronavirus will draw us to the faith. It exposes how much we are not in control.

Israel’s Special Privileges - Anit-semitism was strong in the church of Rome

1. Special nation - Israelites (4a)
2. Adopted by God (4b)
3. God’s glory revealed to them (4c, 5) - Divine spender
4. Given the covenants (4d) - Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
5. Given the law (4e) - Oracles already mentioned in Chapter 3
6. Privilege of worshipping in temple (4f)
7. Messianic prophecies (4g)
8. Godly ancestry (5) - Jesus born a Jew

Our Special Privileges

Paul’s style was to teach theology (understanding of God) and then give applications.

Five personal examples of the Sovereign Selection

1. Ishmael and Isaac (6-10)

“The children of the flesh are not the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring” (8) - “God has children but no grandchildren.” (responsibility)

Ishmael was born out of the will of God - (impatient in waiting on God)

2. Esau and Jacob (11-13)

“Though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad... ” (11)

3. Pharaoh (14-24)

“...show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth” (17)

God hardened hearts in those who rejected him. (Exodus 7:22; 8:15,32)

“God has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.” (18)

4. Hosea (25-26)

“Those who were not my people, I will call my people, and her who was not beloved I will call beloved.” (25) - God’s grace was not limited to Israel but would be offered to Gentiles.

5. Isaiah (27-29)

“Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved.” (27) - Messianic Jews

Conclusions (30-33)

The Gentiles have obtained righteousness because they pursued it through faith.

The Israelites failed to obtain righteousness because they did not pursue it by faith.

Pursuing salvation by works will function as a “stumbling block.” (32)

Stones can be used to build upon or can cause you to stumble.

“Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, everyone one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them.” (Psalm 139:16)