

A STUDY OF PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS CHAPTER NINE PART TWO

Men to Men Ministries
Session 25 of ?

5:00

The background of the slide features a warm, golden-yellow sky with soft, radiating light rays. In the foreground, there are several classical columns, likely Corinthian or Ionic, with detailed capitals. The columns are dark and appear to be part of a larger architectural structure, possibly a temple or a grand hall. The overall atmosphere is one of historical grandeur and intellectual pursuit.

Read Romans not to prove your own point of view.

Read Romans to find your view.

Read Romans not to ratify some existing belief.

Read Romans to create a belief

Read Romans to set a belief that doesn't need to be proved.

John Calvin: It is better that I should leave untended
what I can not explain.

THE WRITER'S WORLD

- Most who write today on the Bible are trying to tell you something new.
- Each is trying to state something from a preconceived idea.
- Something known or concluded beforehand
- Each has a well-thought-out theology conceived in their experiences with other writers who went before.
- We stand on the shoulders of giants
- Each based their understanding on the Bible, yet they all found something different.
- Did the Bible change? Did God change?

SECTIONS OF ROMANS 9

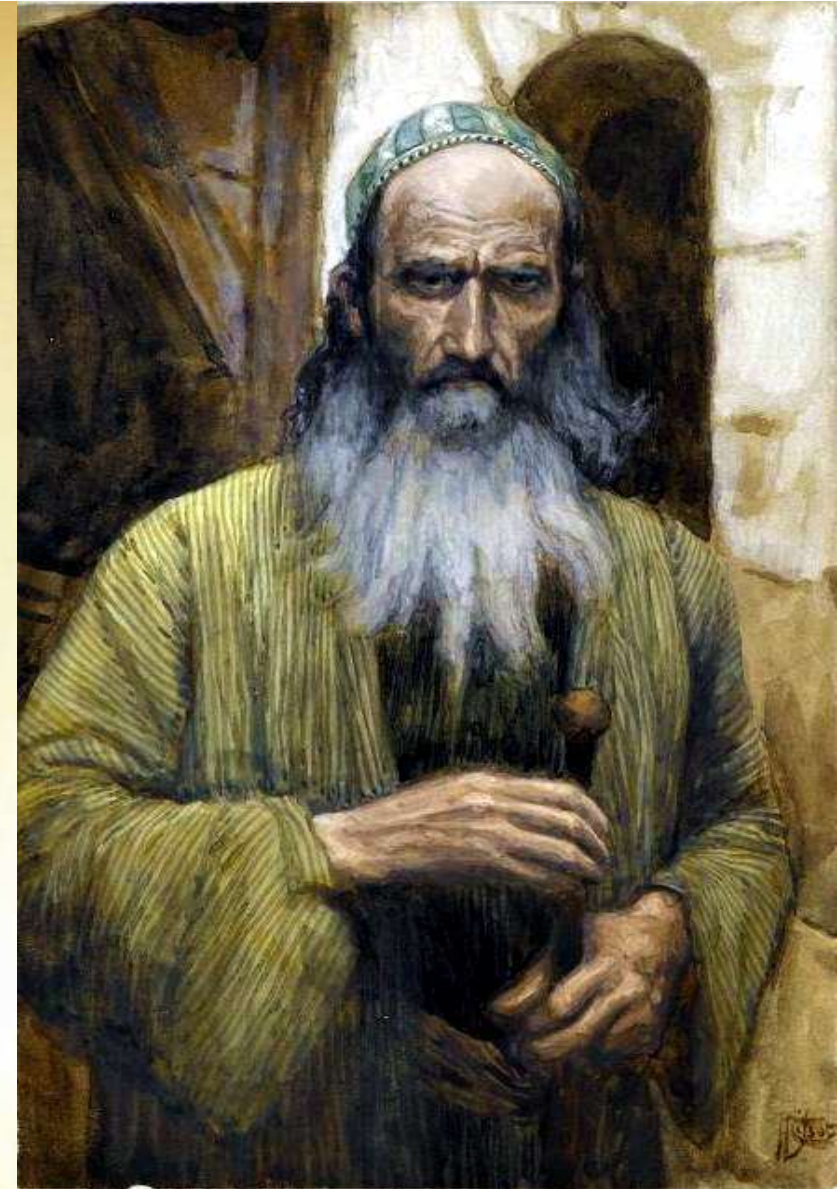
1. Paul expresses his deep sorrow and love for his fellow Jews who have rejected the gospel of Christ (Romans 9:1-5).
2. Paul explains that not all who are descended from Israel are true Israel, but only those who are chosen by God according to his grace and purpose (Romans 9:6-17).
3. **Paul defends God's right to show mercy to whom he wills and to harden whom he wills, and anticipates some objections that might arise from this doctrine (Romans 9:18-29).**
4. Paul concludes that the reason why many Jews did not attain righteousness is that they pursued it by works of the law instead of by faith in Christ, while many Gentiles attained it by faith (Romans 9:30-33).

LAST WEEK

- Not everyone or every individual person in the lineage of Abraham was a part of God's redemptive purpose.
- Israel had an overarching "noble cause" to set the stage for the Savior of the Word.
- The covenant made with Abraham was not about the individual but the total sum to be used to produce the Messiah.
- Just because you are in the bloodline of Abraham it does not mean you are necessarily chosen for the purpose of the Messiah.
- Most of the generations of the people of Abraham had no calling for being special or promise.
- This election was not about who would be saved but a choice by God to be called to service, to a plan, to a promise.

THE PEOPLE OF PROMISE

- People of covenant
- People of privileged position
- The intention of God was a solution to sin
- The intention of God was to use a holy people
- The intention of God supply a single solution to sin
- Israel's covenant vocation was to be the vessel of wrath
- As long as Israel held as a shield their specialness there is no covenant future.
- Go's perfect purpose of the covenant was to deal with sin Israel was returned to humanity as one nation among others.



17 For Scripture says to Pharaoh: I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.

18 So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He **hardens** whom He desires.

19 You will say to me then, “Why does He still find fault for who has resisted His will?”

20 On the contrary, who are you, you foolish person, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, “Why did you make me like this,” will it?

21 Or does the potter not have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one object for honorable use, and another for common use?

22 What if God, although willing to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known, endured with great patience objects of wrath prepared for destruction?

23 And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon objects of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,

24 namely us, whom He also called, not only from among Jews, but also from among Gentiles,

25 as He also says in Hosea: “I will call those who were not My people, ‘My people,’ And her who was not beloved, ‘beloved.’”

26 “And it shall be that in the place where it was said to them, ‘you are not My people,’ There they shall be called sons of the living God.”

27 Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, “Though the number of the sons of Israel may be like the sand of the sea, only the remnant will be saved;

28 for the Lord will execute His word on the earth, thoroughly and quickly.”

29 And just as Isaiah foretold: “If the Lord of armies had not left us descendants, We would have become like Sodom, and would have been like Gomorrah.”

GOD'S PLAN INCLUDED ISRAEL

- Not on good works but by grace. A gift to one who has faith.
- God's plan through history was for Israel to be a big part of the BIG PROMISE
 - *The coming of the Savior of the world*
 - *The Messiah*
 - *You may call it an election or proclaimed destiny*
 - *But it was set as a plan and he used a nation of people, and a few specialty unique persons.*
 - *It was a plan for all the world*
 - *God used circumstances, including stupid choices, sinfulness, detours, and rejection, and yet:*

THE PLAN CONTINUED ON.

FOCUS ON ONE PERSONALITY

- Pharaoh. Harden his heart.
 - *Exodus 4:21 And the Lord said to Moses, “When you go back to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put in your power; but I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.*
- Questions?
 - *Did God force a change in Pharaoh’s from what he already was?*
 - *Did Pharaoh make his own choice?*
 - *Did God force another change in Pharaoh’s heart to let them go?*
 - *Did Pharaoh make his own free choice?*
 - *Did God force Pharaoh to be something he was not?*
 - *Did God change Pharaoh in some way that Pharaoh lost control of himself?*
 - *OR perhaps God created the context and circumstances by which Pharaoh made a choice?*

THE MIND OF PHARAOH

- Pharaoh was king. He was a self-proclaimed deity. His reputation, his self-image, and his worldview were at stake. Exodus 5:2 Who is the Lord, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go. The economic base of Egypt was slave labor. Without slaves, Pharaoh would not be able to sustain the Egyptian population.
- Question: Did God harden Pharaoh's heart? Or was it already hard in the first place and the idea of Anthropos-based Soul had to consider all the factors and make a decision?



Romans 9:22-23

WHAT IF

1. What if God, though desirous to display his anger and show his might, has tolerated most patiently the objects of his anger, ripe and ready to be destroyed,
2. What if he means to show the wealth that lies in his glory for the objects of his mercy?

HYPOTHESIS: ROMANS 9, 10, 11 ARE ABOUT ISRAEL

- Israel is not the church
- Israel is an ethnic grouping with a call to service
- Israel has a bloodline a lineage – not about individual choice but an eternal destiny
- And according to Paul Israel is not Israel.
- They missed the Messiah
- BUT WHY?