

Romans 9:1-33

The Book of Romans reveals how mankind continues to feel the need to “do works” to be saved.

Romans Chapter 1 reveals the unrighteous of man, and shows how degraded man becomes when he rejects God. We see it in the news everyday – murders, rapes, school shootings, etc. When you take the sanctity of life (the bible and God) out of life, society degrades.

Romans Chapter 2 reveals how man becomes self-righteous in his behavior and attitude after rejecting God.

Romans Chapter 3 reveals what God thinks of man’s attitude in His written Word.

Romans Chapter 4 and 5 brings out two men in detail whom the Jewish people are very familiar with: King David and Abraham: Law and Grace. Paul uses these two characters to get the lesson across. The temple was in place, the law was enforced, and sacrifices were going on.

Romans Chapter 6 Paul is still reiterating some of the topics we just discussed, but it so important he must to make sure we understand the concept. We’re going to get into some interesting and controversial things soon.

Romans Chapter 7 should be read by every Christian. It means absolutely nothing to someone who is not saved. This chapter means so much to Christians. It answers many questions about the battle of our old nature and new nature. It explains why we keep sinning even though we don’t want to. It explains why we can never reach a perfect spiritual state while in human form. It gives encouragement in the form of knowledge why we keep doing things of the flesh even though we now know better as Christians.

Romans Chapter 8 is very unique and controversial. It brings you to a pinnacle point of God’s word. It is very deep. In the last part of this 8th chapter, there is an issue of predestination, election and freewill. We will not get deep into those concepts, but maybe in another lesson for a complete study of predestination, election, and freewill. Paul did not write about this issue to divide Christians, but to unite us. It should make every Christian so impressed with the program of God that they should get on their knees and praise the amazing program of God. Please look at this as much as you can from God’s point of view, not a human’s view. **This will carry over into chapter 9.** You will have many questions, many that cannot be answered but we just need to accept the issue on faith, not reason.

Romans Chapter 9 still contains some of the controversial subject matter, but Paul changes focus here a bit and gets into what’s happening with the Jews and Gentiles, about why God called them. From the human standpoint, we just must accept these words, because they are written from God’s view.

Vs1: Paul’s view and the Holy Spirit’s view are the same.

Vs2: Paul and the Holy Spirit feel very bad

Vs3: for God's other people. Paul says "strike my name from the book of Life so my brethren will live". That's how bad Paul feels for his county men.

Vs4: specifically to the Israelites: who are they, what are they? They are the only people on earth who have ever been given such a special promise by God. God picked this bunch of slaves on earth and said they are going to be His people. At that point God had never dealt with any other nation than that of Israel. The greatest sign that the coming of Christ is near is the nation of Israel. They became a nation in May 1948. God's promise to Israel is not yet fulfilled. It will be fulfilled in the future.

Vs5: Israel is different from the rest of the world, yet we have nations today who are threatening total annihilation of the nation of Israel today.

Vs6: here Paul makes a distinct from the physical man who is a descendant of Israel and the spiritual chosen man of Israel, which is a true Israelite.

Vs7: God made a promise of a lineage: **Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob**. If you are a true Israelite, your ancestry will trace back to these people.

Vs8: Paul is talking about the lineage of being a Jew.

Vs9: Paul gets back into the lineage of what it really means to be a Jew Sarah has a son;

Vs10: Rebecca conceived from Isaac.

Vs11-13: Rebecca is having twins, and God has determined beforehand, that the elder will serve the younger. This is Jacob and Esau. Neither did anything bad or good; God determined this before they were born. God loved Esau, but He loved Jacob more. Esau was a well built hunter, a man's man. Jacob was a liar and a sissy. But God picked Jacob over Esau. God wiped out all the Edomites because they were so wicked.

Vs14: Is God unrighteous because he chose Jacob over Esau? No, don't even think that.

Vs15: God will show mercy to who He wants.

Vs16: You can't work hard to make God show you mercy. God will do what He wants.

Vs17: The way Pharaoh behaved and the way God dealt with him is still testimony to God's strength and will.

Vs18: God knows things about Pharaoh that we don't, and He dealt with him appropriately.

Vs19: Don't talk back and balk to God. He made everything in the universe, so who are you to question and balk at Him??? You have no right whatsoever to question God's way.

Vs20: God made you look the way you do, big nose and bulges and everything, so be thankful.

Vs21: if you look at this from a human stand point, you will get confused. Just accept that He makes people look the way He wants to and He used Pharaoh as an example.

Vs22: We get a little key to the background of why God did to Pharaoh what He did; after each plague, Pharaoh just stiffened his neck and became more stubborn, and after a while he went after the Hebrew slaves he just set free and he was going to annihilate them. But God will tolerate your bad attitude for only so long. Then He will deal with you. Free will does play a part in all this, but we don't fully understand all of it yet. Just don't complain about what God does. He has a wonderful reason for all that He does.

Vs23-24: temple worship was still going on at that time, and the Jews still thought they were the only ones who had access to God. But the Gentiles are also invited, and Jews can't believe this. They wouldn't even go into a Gentiles house because they were considered unclean.

Vs25: The Gentiles will also sometime in the future partake of His mercy and they will be called God's people along with the Jews.

Vs26-27: Isaiah prophesized that no matter how many people are destroyed in Israel, there will be remnant saved for all time.

Vs28: This is short work for God, but when He completes His work during tribulation, it will all be good.

Vs29: the Jew's behaviour should've been like Sodom and Gomorrah, but they were spared. When Israel became a nation again in May 1948, it was really a miracle. The bible said it all along: Israel will become a nation again, and it will never be completely destroyed.

Vs30: how come the Gentiles can get God's graces when they haven't obeyed the law?

Vs31: Israel tried to obey the law and get in God's good graces. The law is impossible to obey as a human.

Vs32: Jews get God's grace by faith in Jesus Christ, even though they stumbled and crucified their savior.

Vs33: we are all saved by faith, not the law. By trying to obey the law, they warped their mind so much they didn't even recognize their savior and they killed Him. Now Gentiles get God's graces, too. Be thankful for whatever reason that you have been chosen to be one of God's children.