

Series "How Great A Salvation"
"God Is God"
Romans 9:14-33
Study-26

Paul, in our passage, asks 3 questions; as if God is on the hot seat!

- 1. Is God Unjust? – Romans 9:14**
- 2. Why Does God Still Blame Us? – Romans 9:19**
- 3. What Shall We Say In Conclusion? – Romans 9:30**

Romans 9-11 – The completion of the doctrine of Justification by faith.

Romans 9 – Israel's Past Election – God's Sovereignty

Romans 10 – Israel's Present Rejection – Man's Responsibility

Romans 11 – Israel's Future Reception – God Intervenes

Romans 9:1-13 – God's Faithfulness; Romans 9:14-33 – God's Choice:

This chapter reveals God's dealings with man, not man's involvement to the dealings.

Thought Of Our Passage: "God's Choice Of Extending Mercy Or His Choice For Enduring Of Sin Is Always Right"

- 1. Verses 14-18 – Is God Unjust?**
- 2. Verses 19-29 – Why Does God Still Blame Us?**
- 3. Verses 30-33 – What Shall We Say In Conclusion?**

1. Verses 14-18 – Is God Unjust?:

Romans 9:14 – "What shall we say then?" – Context: Verses 6-13 – The Choice Of God: God's choice of man is not based upon a person's ancestry or merit.

"There is no injustice with God, is there?" – The dissenter found fault with God over His choice of Isaac & Ishmael, Jacob & Esau: In God's promise to Abraham, God made a choice. No one deserves to be saved – Romans 3:9, 19.

"May it never be!" – "May God forbid, not at all!" God is never unjust.

Verses 15-16 – God's Sovereign Will Includes Objects Of Mercy:
Romans 9:15; Exodus 33:19.

Lesson For Israel And Moses – It is God who decides "ON WHOM" to show mercy!

Romans 9:16 – It is not based on will or works, but on God who has mercy. It is God who decides “ON WHOM.” “does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs,” – The term “runs” – speaks of a metaphor for “a believer striving,” 1 Corinthians 9:24,26; Philippians 2:16; 3:12.

“but on God who has mercy.” – Literally, “the merciful God.”

Verses 17-18 – God’s Sovereign Will Includes Objects Of Wrath:
Romans 9:17; Taken from Exodus 9:16.

God’s name was proclaimed in the world, Exodus 15:13-16; Joshua 2:9-18; Psalms 105:26-38.

“Pharaoh” – unbelief and disobedience to God led to his hardening that revealed God’s power. “RAISED YOU UP,” – God used Pharaoh as an actor in history.

Romans 9:18 – “So then He has mercy on whom He desires,” – God’s choice; “and He hardens whom He desires.” – The word “hardens” – speaks of “agreeing with, allowing or letting it take place, refusing God’s grace.”

There are 20 passages that record Pharaoh’s hardened heart. 10X it is Pharaoh and 10X it is God who hardens Pharaoh heart. God never in Scripture hardened a heart that had not been first hardened by himself.

Exodus 8:15; Exodus 8:32; Exodus 9:12; Exodus 9:35; Exodus 10:1; Exodus 10:27

God will, after a time, allow us to have the way that we have chosen,
Romans 1:24, 26, 28.

2. Verses 19-29 – Why Does God Still Blame Us?:

Romans 9:19 – “Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?” – Literally, “What man is there who is resisting God’s will?” The argument is, if God is making all the choices and He is working all things out in mercy and even wrath, how can man be blamed for wrong?

Subtle Deception – Yes, it is true that God created us. Not true that God made us sinners. God did not lead us to resist Him and go against His divine will, Genesis 18:25.

Verse 20 – Finite Man Versus The Infinite God: “On the contrary, who are you, O man,” – “mere man;” “who answers back to God?”

God is the creator and man cannot be anything other than God's creature!
This is what Adam attempted to do in Genesis 3:5.

Verses 20-21 – God Has The Right Of A Potter Over His Clay: "The thing molded will not say to the molder, "Why did you make me like this," will it?" – This is the argument of the lesser to the greater; absurd, Jeremiah 18.

Isaiah 45:9

Romans 9:21

God's Sovereign Power Over Creation: "Or does not the potter have a right over the clay," – What a ridiculous thought! Isaiah 29:16; 45:9; Jeremiah 18:6

"to make from the same lump" – man's common condition of sin.

"one vessel for honorable use," – This would be special use, for special occasions, honored guests, 2 Timothy 2:20.

"and another for common use?" – Such as drawing water, daily eating from.

Romans 9:22 – "What if God, although willing" – "desiring, choosing, willing to forbear." "to demonstrate His wrath and to make His power known,"

God's Longsuffering: "endured with much patience" – Patience reveals God's love; "vessels of wrath prepared for destruction?"

"vessels of wrath prepared for destruction" – the word "prepared" – "perfected, made ripe, fitted himself," Matthew 23:37.

Romans 9:23 – "upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory," – Sinners prepare themselves for wrath; God prepares humble sinners for glory.

Romans 9:24 – "even us," – Paul saw himself, along with the Roman believers, as examples of God's longsuffering.

"whom He also called, not from among Jews only, but also from among Gentiles." – God has brought both Jews and Gentiles together.

Verses 25-29 – God's Promise Confirmed In The Prophets:
Romans 9:25-26; Hosea 1:10; 2:23; Written to the Ten Tribes – God will see them come back, which includes the Gentiles!

Romans 9:27 – Isaiah 10:22-23: National privileges – countless opportunities:

1. Remnant – Joshua & Caleb – went into the promised land.
2. Day of Pentecost – 120 remnants.

Romans 9:28 – Isaiah 10:23: God’s Word is true, and it will come to pass, whether man submits or rebels.

Romans 9:29 – Isaiah 1:9: It was God’s gracious hand that protected Judah and Jerusalem from the Assyrians and will protect Israel in the last days.

3. Verses 30-33 – What Shall We Say In Conclusion?:

Romans 9:30 – “What shall we say then?” – Israel’s defection falls within the will of God, Verses 6-29; from the human point of view, Israel’s failure is the result of disobedience, Romans 9:30-10:21.

“That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness,”
– The Gentiles came in humility and found God in the process by faith!
Romans 10:4

Romans 9:31-32 – “Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it were by works.” – Salvation is by faith, not a result of works!
Romans 3:28

They stumbled over the stumbling stone, 1 Corinthians 1:23.

Romans 9:33

Application:

1. God Is Not Unjust. God’s Sovereign Will Includes Objects Of Mercy And Objects Of Wrath. It Is A Miracle That Unrighteous Man Can Be Saved.
2. God Is The Creator And Man Cannot Be Anything Other Than God’s Creature. God Is The Potter, Mankind Is The Clay. In God’s Patience, It Reveals God’s Love.
3. Rebellious Sinners Are Preparing Themselves For God’s Wrath. God Prepares Humble Sinners For Glory.
4. Israel’s Rejection By God Can Be Clearly Traced Back To Israel’s Unwillingness To Come To God On His Terms, Which Is By Faith Resulting In Righteousness. Israel Chose To Create Their Own Righteousness Through Works.