



GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY AND MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY

Romans 9:25-33

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If someone offers a complaint about God being unfair, remember this. As a woman approached the famous British preacher, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, after he had preached on the text from Romans 9:13, and said, “I cannot understand why God would say He hated Esau.” “That,” Spurgeon replied, “is not my difficulty, Madam. My trouble is to understand how He could love Jacob.” The Bible says, we love God, because He first loved us. He chose us, we didn’t choose Him.

READ, Romans 9:25-33

“As indeed he says in Hosea, “Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’ and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’” **26** “And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’” **27** And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, **28** for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.” **29** And as Isaiah predicted, “If the Lord of hosts had not left us offspring, we would have been like Sodom and become like Gomorrah.” **30** What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; **31** but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. **32** Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, **33** as it is written, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

1. God's EFFECTIVE CALL to GENTILES. (v. 25-26)

- The Old Testament PROPHETS Predicted Israel's UNBELIEF as well as Gentile's BELIEF.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” **Matthew 24:14**

“And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. **20** I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the Lord.” **Hosea 2:19-20**

2. God's EFFECTIVE CALL to ISRAEL. (v. 27-29)

"Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

1 Peter 2:10

3. We are made RIGHT with God by FAITH. (v 30-33)

"By His own determination, God will not save a person who does not believe in His Son, and a person cannot save himself simply by the act of his own will, no matter how sincere & heartfelt." **John MacArthur**

- Jews are NOT made right with God by WORKS but by grace through FAITH.

"Therefore thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.' **Isaiah 28:16**

"'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone'? **18** Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." **Luke 20:17-18**

The rock can be what we cling to or be crushed by. Cling to Christ and you will not be disappointed. God is consistent in revealing to the world the need to have faith in the God who saves. We are justified by grace through faith as it was in the Old Testament and in this current Church age. This is the way God knew it would be and planned it would be, and of course, is the way it turned out to be.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision you could ever make is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, all have sinned and fall short of God's glory and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death. Yet through God's love, only Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead — YOU WILL BE SAVED. The Bible says to REPENT of your sins, BELIEVE in Jesus thereby receiving His forgiveness. And identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.