

ROMANS

Lesson 19: The Faithfulness of God -
Romans 9-11



OUTLINE

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| <p>I. Prologue (1:1-17)</p> <p>II. Impotence of Law as a Way of Salvation (1:18-3:20)</p> <p>III. The All-Sufficiency of Grace as a Way of Salvation (3:21-5:21)</p> <p>IV. The All-Sufficiency of Grace Gives Victory Over Sin (6:1-8:39)</p> | <p>V. The Faithfulness of God in His Dealings with the Jews (9:1-11:36)</p> <p>VI. Living the Sanctified Life (12:1-15:13)</p> <p>VII. Personal Messages from Paul (15:14-16:27)</p> |
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INTRODUCTION

- Considered by some to be one of the most difficult sections in the Bible
- Primarily deals with a 1st century Jewish problem
- Paul approaches it differently than we would
- Has been used to teach error



PROMINENT THEMES

- The Nation of Israel – ethnic or physical Israel
 - Paul's brethren – 9:3-4
 - Their role in God's plan – 9:4-5, 22-23, 11:11-15, 25-32
 - Their historical destiny – 11:1, 11-15, 25-32
 - Their salvation – 9:30-10:3; 10-16-21; 11:7-32



PROMINENT THEMES

- God's Faithfulness – introduced in the question of 9:6 and seen in 9:14, 19; 11:29
 - Has God been faithful to His word concerning His people, Israel?
 - Has He kept His promises? Has He been fair?



PROMINENT THEMES

- The Remnant – distinction between Israel as a whole and the remnant spiritual Israel (9:6, 23-29; 11:2-7)
- God's Sovereignty in Election – God's absolute authority, right, and power to do whatever He wants to do in making the choices He does (9:11, 15-23; 11:5-10, 28-29)



PROMINENT THEMES

- The Gentiles – the relation between the Jews and Gentiles (9:24-31; 11:11-32)
- Law and Grace – compared and contrasted throughout (9:30-31; 10:3-17; 11:6, 20, 23)
- The Church – won't find the word, but clearly meant in 11:17-24



PRINCIPAL THEME – FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

- The Faithfulness of God – Paul is defending God's faithfulness as seen in the questions of 9:6 and 9:14
- Why would this be an issue?
 - Jews' rejection of the gospel and God's consequent rejection of them
 - God's rejection of the nation of Israel as whole in respect to salvation when they rejected Him



PRINCIPAL THEME – FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

- Paul's intent is to show that God has been completely faithful to the Jews and kept all His promises to them in spite of the nation's unbelief and rejection of Him
- How does he answer? – By distinguishing between service and salvation and the promises associated with both



PRINCIPAL THEME – FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

Chosen for Service

- Jews had a special role (9:4-5; 3:1-2)
- Mission was accomplished
- Blessings associated with this mission
- Didn't include, nor related to, their salvation

Chosen for Salvation

- Salvation of individual Jews separate from the nation's election to service
- God has set up a way of salvation
- Anyone may meet this conditions



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN 1-8 AND 9-11

- Paul's explanation of salvation by grace and not by law (1-8) brings up a question that is now fully dealt with
- Does salvation by grace render the Jews irrelevant?
- If the gospel is so rooted in the OT, why did the Jews refuse it?



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN 1-8 AND 9-11

- Paul starts to answer in 3:1, but now fully deals with the question
- Relation to the immediate context of 8:31-39
 - Paul finishes chapter 8 with precious promises that are the essence of God's new covenant through Jesus Christ
 - Can we count on them based on His dealings with the Jews?



GOD'S SOVEREIGN ELECTION

- God's sovereign election - 9:7, 11-13, 15-24, 11:5, 7-8, 28-29
- Human freedom & responsibility – 9:30-33; 10:3-4, 10, 12-13, 17, 21; 11:14, 20, 22-23
- How to reconcile God's sovereign election and human freedom / responsibility?



GOD'S SOVEREIGN ELECTION

- Key to reconciling these ideas is the distinction between election for salvation and election for service
- Failure to distinguish between the 2 is what caused the Jews to question God's faithfulness
- Failure to distinguish between the 2 on our part can lead to misapplication of chapters 9-11



GOD'S SOVEREIGN ELECTION

- Election to service applies to the entire nation of Israel and every individual within in it
- Election to salvation applies only to the "Israel within Israel" – the remnant – and every individual in it
- God has the sovereign right to distinguish between salvation and service



GOD'S SOVEREIGN ELECTION

- God also has sovereign right to choose for salvation in a different way than He chooses for service
 - Service – Unconditional
 - Salvation – Conditional (grace through faith)
- Resolves paradox between God's sovereignty and humankind's freewill/responsibility



GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Prologue (9:1-5)
- Fact that there are 2 Israels (9:6-29)
- Criterion for distinguishing between the 2 (9:30 – 10:21)
- Still hope for the salvation of all ethnic Jews (11:1-32)
- Doxology of praise (11:33-36)


