

ISRAEL'S PLACE IN GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION
PART 1 – ISRAEL'S UNBELIEF DOES NOT CHANGE GOD'S
PROMISES - ROMANS 9:6-13

INTRODUCTION:

As we move into Romans 9:6-13 this morning Paul is going to show us that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not the heresy that the Jews claim it to be, and why the rejection of the Gospel by most individual Jews and the nation of Israel does not bring into question God's righteous and just character, nor does it negate or violate God's revelation in the Old Testament, nor does it alter the means of salvation, which has always been by faith, nor does it abandon the place of Israel in God's plan of redemption, nor does it renounce any of the promises God made to the nation of Israel. Paul in our passage this morning reveals to us how the unbelief of Israel fits in with and does not change God's promises.

I. GOD'S WORD HAS NOT FAILED (Romans 9:6a)

- a. This is not an _____ passage and the rest of this chapter is not easy.
- b. Paul in the first five verses of this chapter assured his Jewish relatives, his people of his deep _____ for them and his great concern for their _____.
- c. Paul declares to his Jewish readers that Israel's _____ as a nation was perfectly in line with and did not in any way violate God's promises made in the Old Testament. (Jeremiah 32:42; Isaiah 55:11)

II. NOT ALL ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS (Romans 9:6b-8)

- a. As we continue to read Paul's words, he explains how the Jews unbelief does not _____ or make void God's Word. (Genesis 21:12)
- b. God blessed Abraham's son Ishmael, but he would never be the _____ to God's promise made to Abraham.
- c. Because of sin, because man is born dead in trespasses and sin, God always knew that all Jews would be spiritually _____

and cut off from the promise and from salvation. (Genesis 17:15-22)

III. CHILDREN OF PROMISE ARE BY FAITH (Romans 9:8-9)

- a. Paul goes on in verse 8 "*That is, it is not the children of the _____ who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants.*" (Romans 9:8, NASB95)
- b. We see this _____ over and over in the Old Testament, that not all Israel believed in God, not all Israel came to God in faith.
- c. Isaac is for us a wonderful example of the true _____ of God.
- d. That Paul is speaking of _____ children of God here in Romans 9 was made clear when he wrote the Galatians some years earlier. (Galatians 3:6-7, 29)
- e. You must understand that the character of God seen in the fact that He is _____ and righteous and faithful and _____ does not allow Him to fail in any of His promises. (Jeremiah 23:3; Isaiah 37:31-32)
- f. Paul finishes this section on Isaac as the son of promise by quoting again from Genesis, "*For this is the word of promise: 'AT THIS TIME I WILL COME, AND SARAH SHALL HAVE A _____.'*" (Romans 9:9, NASB95) (Hebrews 11:11)

IV. GOD'S PURPOSE WILL STAND (Romans 9:10-13)

- a. Paul is not done illustrating this _____ for us and he gives us a second example. (Genesis 24)
- b. God sovereignly chose _____ even before the boys were born and He chose him without any regard for what they might do during their lifetimes.
- c. God in His sovereignty unconditionally and completely apart from any consideration of human merit _____ those who will become His heirs of promise.
- d. Esau and his descendants give ample evidence in their lives that they _____ God.

- e. Jacob suffered the consequences of his deceit with which he and his mother used to get the blessing of the _____ - _____, but even this act of sin did not nullify God's promise at all.
- f. Paul finishes up this portion of Scripture by summarizing what he had just written by quoting the prophet Malachi and this quote seems quite shocking and for many people this seems contrary to their view of the _____ of God.
(Malachi 1:2-3)

CONCLUSION:

Paul using the examples of Isaac and Jacob teaches the truth that from the descendants of Abraham through Isaac through Jacob would come an elect remnant of Jews who are redeemed by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and that other Jews would remain in unbelief and because of this they will give up the spiritual promises of God that are yet to be fulfilled in the future. Paul clearly shows in this passage that God is entirely justified in choosing Jacob over Esau because His choice was not based on human merit or personal characteristics of those chosen, but was based solely on God's divine and infallible choice which is sovereignly His right. As I stated at the beginning of this message, this is a difficult passage of the infinite wisdom and knowledge of God that we cannot wrap our finite minds around. From these two men, Abraham and Isaac came two nations, one God chose for His divine blessing and protection, the other was destined for divine judgment.

When we move away from the national aspect of this and look at individuals, Paul had already made it abundantly clear that salvation of an individual requires human faith. But the power of salvation is entirely a work of God's grace and the primary purpose is to bring God glory. Man by nature wants there to be something to merit salvation and we try to explain away the truth that God is God and that whatever God does because He is God it is just and righteous and that certainly includes calling some people to salvation and not calling others. As ones that He has called we can rejoice in our salvation and we can confess with Paul the truth of I Corinthians 1:9, that "*God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*" (1 Corinthians 1:9, NASB95)