

Introduction:

- Tonight we begin a new section of the letter to the Romans. The section itself is made up of chapters 9-11. They mostly have to do with the Israelites.
- Is this section a diversion from what Paul has written? Or is it intentionally written to the church in Rome? Actually it is an important part of the letter, message, and heart of Paul.

I. Overview of 9-11

- A. Paul being a Jew, and now Christian who believe in Jesus the Christ, is put at once in opposition to the Jewish faith. His message and ministry seem to be in opposition to the Jews as we have already seen in his understanding of the law vs. grace.
1. Paul is not using Israel to make a theological point in his letter. He speaks of Israel because of his genuine concern for her salvation. Israel is his people. His, for the most part unbelieving people.
 2. The Jews are recipients of so many benefits from God. 9:4-5 yet, for the most part they do not believe. They are objects of God's intense love, yet for the most part they are dying in their sin as enemies of God.
 3. In all of this Paul is both a Jew who has accepted all God offers and at the same time an 'enemy' to the Jewish faith.
- B. He denies that Jews are guaranteed salvation and asks at the same time, "What is to become of their status as God's chosen people.
1. On top of this he has told them that what once belonged to them as Jews has now been granted to believers whether they are Jew or Gentile. Christians are heirs of Abraham, adopted by God, possessors of the Spirit and have the glory.
 2. Paul does not totally disqualify the Jews because then where would salvations history be rooted? What would be the factor that ties OT with NT?
- C. These chapters 9-11, fully provide for Israels salvation if applied appropriately by faith.
1. "His claim that individual Jews are sinners, in danger of God's wrath (2:1-3:20), requires him to deal with the status of the people Israel. Moo, D. J. (1996). (p. 552). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.
 2. All through these chapters we find Paul continuing to lead by asking questions (9:14, 30; 10:8,14-15, 18,19; 11:1,7,11)
 3. In chapters 9-11, Paul writes to both Gentiles and Jews about this topic and how it affects each. He is not afraid to get 'into the business' of the Gentile or the Jews. His concern is that they honor salvations history and that they all join the ranks of those who are made right by faith.
- D. Overview
1. 9:1-5 opening personal lament. And a closing doxology 11:33-36
 2. The rest is divided into four sections.
 - a) 9:6-29 The Word has not failed.

- b) 9:30-10:21 What shall we say?
- c) 11:1-10 Paul summarizes Israel's situation
- d) 11:11-32 Paul argues that Israel's current hard heartedness is not permanent.

II. Paul's Lament

- A. Paul now moves from 8:35-39, "What could possibly separate us from the love of God?" into a revelation of his grieving heart about a people group that is living separated from God.
1. Those who have been promised so much seem to have been disinherited. But Paul seeks to show that this is not the case.
 2. Why is Paul making such a strong case for his heart in verse 2 and 3? Because his Gospel in chapters 1-8 has been so clearly laid out. His mission among the Gentile nations has also went before him.
 3. In verse three Paul gives the reason for his great sorrow: So many of his fellow Jews by refusal to receive the Gospel have condemned themselves.
 - a) Paul goes so far as to call himself cursed for the sake of his fellow Jews. Would he really do that? Most translators say, "NO." It would not stand the test of Paul's own theology. It goes to show the depth of his compassion for his own people the Israelites. IE. Consider Moses, Ex 32:30 who chose to be blotted out of the book if God destroyed Israel.
 - b) Paul is an apostle to the Gentiles but will always be an Israelite!

III. Israel's Privileges vs 4-5

- A. Paul does not have to be cursed for them because of all the privileges given to them. God has not rejected his people. 11:2
- B. The privileges:
1. They are Israelites! Chosen by God.
 2. Adopted by God - this speaks of God's continuing regard for the Israelites inspire of their rebellion.
 3. The Glory. The Glory is the presence of God.
 4. God made covenants! Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, etc.
 5. He gave them the law.
 6. He gave them the privilege of worship
 7. He gave them wonderful promises
 8. He gave them the fathers of their faith - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob.
 9. Messiah comes from among them as a Jew. From the Father but through the Jewish race.
 10. And He is God! This is a huge powerful statement by the apostle Paul!

Conclusion:

- In Jesus, salvation's history had taken a dramatic turn and many Jews have 'fallen off'. These three chapters are to get them back on and to encourage Gentiles to help their Jewish brothers to find Christ.