

**Introduction:**

- Have you ever thought about how through the centuries God has preserved the Jewish people and they have maintained their identity even though they have been scattered all over the planet Earth? Why? Because God preserved them. We will look at this tonight.
- Three sections
  - in v. 6a—"the word of God has not failed." Here, Paul argues that God's word never promised salvation to all the biological descendants of Abraham (9:6b-13).
  - Salvation is never a birthright, even for Jews, but always a gift of God's electing love (vv. 14-23),
  - Grace is a gift he is free to bestow on Gentiles as well as Jews (vv. 24-29).
- "Well then, has God failed to fulfill his promise to Israel? No, for not all who are born into the nation of Israel are truly members of God's people!" (Romans 9:6, NLT)

**I. The Word Of God Has Not Failed** v6 Paul starts with a question.

- A. For the Christian Jewish people who had been given salvations history. They suddenly discover that it has taken an unexpected turn. The Jew to whom Messiah had been given was now rejecting the gift of God. And the Gentile who was always seen as the outcast had accepted Him. Paul, now insists that this does not nullify the Word of God and His promises.
- B. Pauls argument in vss 6-29 states that true spiritual people have always been based on God's grace and call to follow Him, not on ethnic identity. This narrows the road for the Jews and broadens it for the Gentiles.
- C. The issues to the above question is this: God has bound himself by His word to the children of Israel. Do these now mean nothing?
  1. This is Pauls first part of his argument to answer this. Who is the Israel to whom God's promises have been given? Two answers
    - a) The physical Israel. No one doubts that they still remain God's chosen people. But he denies that all Jew will be saved. He insists that salvation is never based on ethnical decent.
    - b) The Spiritual Israel is of those who believe. A small number/remnant of the lager group of Jews.
      - (1) To be a child of Abraham does not necessarily make you a part of spiritual Israel. v7 It is from Isaacs lineage that descendants of promise will come.vs8
      - (2) God creates this spiritual Israel by super natural intervention. vs 9.
  2. Paul now moves to the next generation to make this same point. vs 10 Jacob and Esau. Natural vs Spiritual Israel.
    - a) Jacob and Esau shared the same father and mother.
    - b) God promised before the birth. Again showing his choice not mans
    - c) Because Jacob was the younger brother it show that no human influenced it.
  3. God's choice makes it God's plan. His predetermined plan and therefore His unfailing plan. Because it is God's plan, His Word cannot and does not fail!
- D. Jacob I love and Esau I have rejected.
  1. Jacob's name is changed to Israel.
  2. Esau become known as Edom.

3. Paul's usage of the two names is really speaking to those who have been made right with God through faith. And those who are rejected because of their rejection of God's son. The two reflect their relationship to God and His promises.

**II. Paul Answers Objections 14-23** Are we saying God is unfair?

- A. Of course not, vs 16 It is God who decides to show mercy. Not ours or any others choice.
- B. God hardened pharaohs heart so the salvation message would go forth through Israel. God harden a portion of Israel so the Gospel would go forth. 17-18

**III. God's Call vss. 24-29**

- A. God's call is the sole basis for inclusion in the true people of God.
- B. Paul here in these verses specifically refers the Gentiles being called.

**IV. Israel's Dilemma, What Then Shall We Say? 9:30-33**