

HE IS THE POTTER

It is all God's choice, and everything depends on His Mercy and Grace.

Our part is to be the clay- have faith and surrender.

ROMANS Chapter 9: God's Choice of Israel¹

¹ I am a follower of Christ, and the Holy Spirit is a witness to my conscience. So I tell the truth and I am not lying when I say ² my heart is broken and I am in great sorrow. ³ I would gladly be placed under God's curse and be separated from Christ for the good of my own people. ⁴ They are the descendants of Israel, and they are also God's chosen people. God showed them his glory. He made agreements with them and gave them his Law. The temple is theirs and so are the promises that God made to them. ⁵ They have those famous ancestors, who were also the ancestors of the Christ. I pray that God, who rules over all, will be praised forever! Amen. (DOXOLOGY)

⁶ It cannot be said that God broke his promise.

After all, not all of the people of Israel are the true people of God. ⁷⁻⁸ In fact, when God made the promise to Abraham, he meant only Abraham's descendants by his son Isaac. God was talking only about Isaac when he promised ⁹ Sarah, "At this time next year I will return, and you will already have a son." ¹⁰ Don't forget what happened to the twin sons of Isaac and Rebekah. ¹¹⁻¹² **Even before they were born or had done anything good or bad, the Lord told**

ISAAC is the child of FAITH, the child of PROMISE (not Ishmael who was a child by blood only)
Hebrews 11: 11 Even when Sarah was too old to have children, she had faith that God would do what he had promised, and she had a son. 12 Her husband Abraham was almost dead, but he became the ancestor of many people. In fact, there are as many of them as there are stars in the sky or grains of sand along the seashore.

Rebekah that her older son (Esau) would serve the younger one (Jacob). The Lord said this to show he makes his own choices and it wasn't because of anything either of them had done.

¹³ That's why the Scriptures say that the Lord loved Jacob more than Esau. (later Jacob would be called ISRAEL and Esau would be EDOM Gen.32:24)

Romans 9:14 Are we saying God is unfair? Certainly not! ¹⁵ **The Lord told Moses that he has pity and mercy on anyone he wants**

to. **16 Everything then depends on God's mercy and not on what people want or do.** **17** In the Scriptures the Lord says to the king (Pharoah) of Egypt, "I let you become king, so that I could show you my power and be praised by all people on earth." **18** Everything depends on what God decides to do, and he can either have pity on people or make them stubborn.

(Where is free will in the middle of God's foreknowledge, Omniscience, Omnipresence, Omnipotence)

God is the Potter

19 Someone may ask, "How can God blame us, if he makes us behave in the way he wants us to?" **20** But, my friend, I ask, "Who do you think you are to question God? Does the clay have the right to ask the potter why he shaped it the way he did? **21 Doesn't a potter have the right to make a fancy bowl and a plain bowl out of the same lump of clay?"**

22 God wanted to show his anger and reveal his power against everyone who deserved to be destroyed. But instead, he patiently put up with them.

(Why would God wait patiently, when he is a God of Justice?)

23 He did this by showing how glorious he is when he has pity on the people he has chosen to share in his glory.

24 Whether Jews or Gentiles, we are those chosen ones, **25** just as the Lord says in the book of Hosea,

**"Although they are not
my people, I will make them my people.**

I will treat with love those nations that have never been loved.

26 "Once they were told,
'You are not my people.'

But in that very place they will be called
children of the living God."

27 And this is what the prophet Isaiah said about the people of Israel,

"The people of Israel are as many as the grains of sand
along the beach. **But only a few who are left will be saved.**

28 The Lord will be quick and sure to do on earth what he has warned

he will do.” ²⁹ Isaiah also said, “If the Lord All-Powerful had not spared some of our descendants, we would have been destroyed like the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.”[±]

FAITH

³⁰What does all of this mean? It means that the Gentiles were not trying to be acceptable to God, but they found that he would accept them if they had faith. ³¹- but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³²It also means that the people of Israel were not acceptable to God. And why not? It was because they were trying to be acceptable by obeying the Law instead of by having faith in God. The people of Israel fell over the stone that makes people stumble, ³³ just as God says in the Scriptures,

“Look! I am placing in Zion a stone to make people stumble and fall. But those who have faith in that one will never be disappointed.”

ALL PART OF THE PLAN!!! JESUS PROPHESED IN

PRAYER-John 17: ¹After Jesus had finished speaking to his disciples, he looked up toward heaven and prayed:

Father, the time has come for you to bring glory to your Son, in order that he may bring glory to you. ²And you gave him power over all people, so he would give eternal life to everyone you give him. ³Eternal life is to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent. ⁴I have brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you gave me to do. ⁵Now, Father, give me back the glory I had with you before the world was created.

....¹² While I was with them, I kept them safe by the power you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost, except the one who had to be lost. This happened so that what the Scriptures say would come true.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in CHRIST JESUS for good works, which GOD prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them