

Holy Spirit Israel Holy Spirit continued
 Chapter 8 (chapters 9, 10, 11) Chapter 12

- so when we get to chapter 12 we will re-read chapter 8, without any long discussion and then start chapter 12's study.

"Paul mourns for Israel"

Romans 9:1-3 (paraphrasing) "My heart is broken because my fellow countrymen, the Jews, do not appreciate the Gospel of Grace that was given to me by Christ." (Disclaimer: last week I stated that the Holy Spirit is the "Head" of the Churches, and Synagogues (O.T.) of the ages, and all though that is true: so are the other Two of the Godhead. They are all distinct yet all the same. So to answer the question, "Is the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, or God the Father the Head of the Church?" The answer will always be "Yes".) Here Paul is devastated that Israel is not embracing the Gospel of Grace that God gave Paul. He is willing to be cursed by God if it would help Israel to see Jesus as the Christ.

Just like Moses who was devastated by Israel's straying in Exodus 32:31-32 "Then Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! Yet now, if You will forgive their sin - but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book (the Book of Life) which You have written." (I could not do that! Could you?).

Romans 9:4: Israel was God's first nation, set apart, and given God's covenants: "I will bless them that bless you, ..." (Genesis 12:3), and the covenant of the "Law" at Mount Sinai meant to govern and shape Israel to be His nation of priests (Exodus 19:6) and the promise that "heaven and earth shall pass away before Israel ceases to be a nation". (Jeremiah 31:35-36).

Romans 9:5 (paraphrasing) "Yes, the nation of Israel is God's chosen people but so are all those grafted in through Jesus Christ who is also of the family line of Abraham."

Romans 9:6-8 Abraham fathered 2 children. One born of the flesh and one born of the promise. Isaac's descendants would become the enemy of Israel; the Muslim nation. However Isaac's descendants would become the Jew and the Christians.

Romans 9:9: I believe Scripture is pointing to the nation of Israel being born in impossible conditions, just like Jesus was born to a virgin. Both births were only possible because God intervened.

Romans 9:10-13: In verse 13 we are reminded that in Malachi 1:2-3 God says, "I chose Jacob instead of Esau" this is exactly the same predestination that we discussed last week! The proof for this is found in verse 11. Both Jacob and Esau were born with a free will but one (Jacob) would lead a spiritual life and one would live a fleshly life, choosing to sell his birthright. And since God can see how everyone's life plays out He knows who will choose Him and who won't. Both are born with free will and both are given the same love of God in all things! So God "chose Jacob instead of Esau," because Jacob chose God and Esau didn't.

The same is true of Cain and Abel; actually more love was poured out on Cain than Abel! (See print-out Genesis 4:1-7).

Romans 9:14+15: Knowing the truth of God's diligence to ALL in regards to salvation ("Lest any should perish") we need to stop thinking that God loves one more than the other because He doesn't. He makes that very clear in the fact that He gave His One and only Son so that whoever believes will have eternal life. Verse 15 states exactly that. He will show His love and have mercy on all those who chose Him through Jesus Christ.

Romans 9:16-18 Pharaoh was given many opportunities to recognize God's sovereignty! And Pharaoh almost repented but did not. He rather put it off. In Exodus 9:27 he actually says, after the plague of hail: "I have sinned this time. God is righteous and I and my people are wicked". These were empty words not true belief.

Romans 9:19-21: Almost seems to imply that, it is o.k. to say, "It's not my fault, this is how God made me." But that is not what this Scripture says. We can't blame God for our hardness on the Potters wheel; for us not allowing ourselves to be formed according to His will. Remember, He doesn't make faulty vessels!

Next Rabbit Hole:

Is it God's fault that Israel rejected His Son? No it's not! In Jesus' three year ministry He showed all, by miracles AND by the 300+ fulfilled prophecies pertaining to Him who He was (and still is). His Resurrection alone (leave out the fulfilled prophecies) should have been definitive proof that He was the Son of God; the Messiah! Let alone the 40 years of further revelations through Stephan, the Disciples, Apostles, and the "church" growing exponentially the more persecution it received. 40 years from the Cross to the destruction of the Temple and the scattering of the Jews to all parts of the world in 70 A.D.! 40 years of opportunity to repent and acknowledge Christ as LORD! No that was their (non-believers) fault. God tried, and tried, and tried, and tried to get them to see the truth. Instead they came up with lies to cover the resurrection (Matthew 28: 11-15 see print-out). So who's fault is it that, "their hearts were hardened until the fulness of the Gentiles comes in?" Who's fault is it when anyone's heart is hardened? (Now our loved ones who are not walking as they once did, or have not come to God yet are excluded from this category. God will not harden their hearts! I am convinced, with all my being, that His grace will abound on them when it is their appointed time!)

Romans 9:22-25: Paul seems to imply, through the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit that some, "were made to be destroyed." This is not what he, Paul, is saying. Paul is simply saying that the Gentiles (non-Jews) would have all perished if they would have never been taught of God's grace, through faith, in Jesus Christ. We just recounted that God's plan was that all might know Him, through His nation of priests! But since they refused He went to Matthew, John-Mark, Luke, John, Paul, Aquillus, Percilla, Apollas, Philemon, Timothy, Peter, James, Jude, the 500 witnesses of His resurrection, the Mary's, Joanna, other woman (and men), Pastor Dr. Daniel Pascal Tomas, Valentine and the countless hundreds of millions of testimonies from people who call Jesus Lord! God calls all of them, and us, children. Not just the Jew.

Romans 9:26: The same pagan Gentiles that God said are not His people (His chosen people Israel) become His people. Solely because He has always persuade them. Hosea 2:23 speaks to this truth.

Romans 9:27-28: On the contrary, His chosen people Israel, who rejected Him (through unbelief in Christ) He will reject. Again, not all but rather many.

Romans 9:29: (Paraphrasing): "God, who rules over all, left us a Seed so that we wouldn't end up dead like Sodom and Gomorrah, Jesus was, and still is, that Seed. And just like that seed when taken out of the package is dead, so were we dead. But God took that dead Seed and planted it. And out of that dead Seed sprouted NEW LIFE. And those who believe in the ① Death, ② Burial, and ③ Resurrection of "the Seed born of the woman" (Genesis 3:15) will have their old sin nature put to death, planted far out of God's sight, and a new life will sprout forth never to die again."

Romans 9:30-33: Everyone is given opportunities to find salvation. God's people (Israel) had it right in front of them the whole time but they were so busy being legalistic and racist against anyone not of their ethnicity that the weeds grew over the chief Cornerstone that they needed to complete their building made by hands. This Stone was Jesus Christ and it was placed right smack in the middle of their way. So much so that they stumbled over it!!!! Non-Jews, and Messianic Jews however saw it immediately. Their/our faith made it stand out as if a spotlight were fixated on it! By faith, they/we found it and used it as the foundation that we build upon. God gave that insight to Peter just as He gives that same insight to us.

Matthew 16:17 (When Jesus asked His Disciples who men say that He is Peter replied, "You are the Christ the Son of the living God.")

Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven."

Uh-Oh: I feel another Rabbit Hole immediately ahead:

Israel Does Not Believe

(31)

Flesh and blood, memorizing the Bible, attending church, singing Christian songs and God bumper stickers are all useless without one sincerely seeking the truth about our One-and-Only God! Because without a longing for the truth it's all just head knowledge. No different than the Sadducees and Pharisees of Jesus' day who Jesus said, "had the Devil as their father." One exception, and I am positive there were several, if not many, was Nicodemus. He came to Jesus by night to find the truth. Nicodemus' open mind and open heart caused God the Father to let him see the truth that is Jesus Christ. I call this Lydiatizing. I should have covered this in our study of Acts but neglected to do so. But this truth needs to be spoken; God opens the eyes, ears, and heart of EVERYONE who seeks the truth. Lydia was a woman who considered herself religious (a charity giving "Chr-Easter" type of worshiper).

Acts 16:13-14: "And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made, and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. (The Gospel of Grace).

Romans 10:1: In all of Paul's letters, when Paul addresses people as "brothers and sisters" he is speaking to the "Church"/"Christians". And here he is telling his congregation that he prays for Israel's coming to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Romans 10:2-4: Paul is flustered by Israel's stubbornness. They expect God to respect them because of their effort to keep the Law's of Moses but verse 4 makes it very clear that that is futile. Futile because no-one can keep the whole law outside of Christ. And Christ did that when He, "fulfilled everything the law was meant to do". (Remember He said, "It's finished"). - "So now everyone who believes [by faith] can be right with God."