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Monday Night Bible Study  
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Romans Collection

## Romans 9-11

Important things to know about these chapters:

1. The book of Romans is written to a mostly Gentile (non-Jewish) audience in the church in Rome.
2. Paul is the author. He was an apostle of Jesus Christ who wrote 13 letters (or books) in the New Testament. Romans, Corinthians (1&2), Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians (1&2), Timothy (1&2), Titus, Philemon.
3. God has chosen a special people for His purposes: Israelites.
4. God brought salvation to the Gentiles through Jesus' death and resurrection. (And made the Jews jealous)
5. The Gentiles became arrogant that THEY now had salvation, and they looked down on the Israelite people for rejecting Jesus.
6. Paul includes this section in His letter to the Romans to remind them NOT to be arrogant toward the Israelites (Jews). God was not finished with His chosen people.
7. God (Yahweh) has NOT gone back on His word (promise) to the Israelites. He will extend His mercy to them once again.

### The Three Main Points of these Chapters:

- God's chosen people have rejected Him. (Israel)
- God has extended salvation to the Gentiles.
- God will extend mercy to His people once again. (Israel)

Paul is instructing (and even rebuking) the gentiles for their arrogance toward the Jewish people. He was reminding them that the Jews are still God's people and He has not forsaken them. And it's ONLY by God's mercy that the gentiles have access to God through the cross and resurrection.

*Acts 15 - Council of Jerusalem*

LAW vs. GRACE (by faith)

<sup>5</sup> Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, "The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses."

<sup>6</sup> The apostles and elders met to consider this question. <sup>7</sup> After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. <sup>8</sup> God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. <sup>9</sup> He did not discriminate between us and them,

for he purified their hearts by faith. <sup>10</sup> Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup> **No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.**

Romans 9:14-25 displays God faithfully accomplishing His purposes “even within that human rebellion and arrogance to bring about an even more glorious work of rescue, revealing his power, and gaining a worldwide reputation for performing extraordinary acts of judgment and mercy.”

For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,  
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” [Exodus 33:19]

Romans 9–11 opens with Paul’s grief (9:1–2) that the majority of Israelites have rejected the Messiah (9:3; cf. 9:30–10:4; 11:1, 11, 20, 23) even though they had unique privileges (9:4–5).

That introduces the tension that Romans 9–11 addresses:

(a) Israel’s unbelief

(b) Israel’s privileged status

- God made promises to Israel, yet Israel is “cut off from Christ” (9:3a). [because of their rejection of the Messiah]

- So does that mean God’s word (promise) is unreliable? Has God’s word (promise) failed?

No, “It is not as though the word of God has failed” (9:6a). That is the foundation of Romans 9–11.

→ **God has NOT gone back on His word (promise) to His chosen people, Israel.**

That foundation was so important to Paul’s original audience because the mostly Gentile church in Rome needed to think rightly about themselves in regard to Israelites and treat Israelites accordingly:

“Do not be arrogant toward the branches” (11:18a). In the history of salvation, God set aside Israel in order to save more Gentiles and thus provoke Israel to jealousy and save more Israelites (11:11–32).

Paul’s metaphor teaches there is one people of God. God’s people under both the old and new covenants—both Israelites and Gentiles—are part of the *same* tree rooted in the soil of God’s redemptive work.

## Romans 9

I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit—<sup>2</sup> I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, <sup>4</sup> the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. <sup>5</sup> Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

<sup>6</sup> It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. <sup>7</sup> Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned [Genesis 21:12]." <sup>8</sup> In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring. <sup>9</sup> For this was how the promise was stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son [Genesis 18:10,14]."

1. This is to say... it is by FAITH that humans will be the people of God.
2. God confirms this PROMISE by sending Sarah and Abraham a son. [Romans 4:20,21]

Romans 9:14 - What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses...

Romans 9:15 - "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

<sup>16</sup> It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy. <sup>17</sup> For Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth [Exodus 9:16]."

## **Romans 10**

10:1 - Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.

1. Paul shares his passion for his people once again, just like in the beginning of chapter 9.
2. Salvation is for ALL who believe
  - a. Romans 10:4 – Christ is the culmination (pinnacle) of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. (Jews or Gentile; remember Acts 15)

*This is one of the most Famous Passages in all the Bible:*

Romans 10:9-12 - If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. <sup>11</sup> As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup> for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

3. At the end of chapter 10, Paul, once again, addresses the Israelite people (Jews) and their inability to follow God, or put their faith (obedience) in Him, and it led to their rejection of Christ:

<sup>19</sup> Again I ask: Did Israel not understand? First, Moses says,

“I will make you envious by those who are not a nation [Gentiles];  
I will make you angry by a nation that has no understanding.” [Deut. 32:21]

<sup>20</sup> And Isaiah boldly says,

“I was found by those who did not seek me [Gentiles];  
I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me.” [Isaiah 65:1]

<sup>21</sup> But concerning Israel he says,

“All day long I have held out my hands  
to a disobedient and obstinate people.” [Isaiah 65:2]

## **Romans 11**

I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin.

1. God has secured a group of Israelites who have believed. They will be the ones to reach the nation of Israel.

Romans 11:5,6 - So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. <sup>6</sup> And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

2. So, can Israel be rescued by God? Can they be brought back into relationship with Him along with Gentiles? YES!

Romans 11:11,12 - Again I ask: Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. <sup>12</sup> But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their full inclusion bring!

3. Belief (faith) is the KEY.

Romans 11:23 - And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.

4. God shows us His mercy!

Romans 11:30-32 - Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. <sup>32</sup> For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

The BIG PICTURE of Romans 9-11: **REMAIN IN CHRIST (believe)**

John 15 – “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”