

Romans Class 7

Recap Weeks 1-6

Addressing Jew/Gentile issues
Gospel: Righteousness from God, by faith
Needed by both Jew and Gentile
Apart from Law
Leads us away from sin, into holiness
Accomplishes what Law could not
Enables us to live by the Spirit

Overview, chapters 9-11

Rom 9-11 Yet another difficult section

What about God's promises to Abraham about his descendants?

- Chosen people
 - They rejected the Messiah
 - Has God now withdrawn his promise to Abraham? No!
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- 1) Not all descendants of Abraham received the blessing
 - 2) God has the right to choose whom he blesses
 - 3) The Gospel and the Jew
 - 4) The Gospel and the Gentile
 - 5) In the end all of the true Israel will be saved.

1. Descendants of Abraham

Rom 9:6 It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. **[KEY VERSE]**

- Isaac, not Ishmael
- Jacob, not Esau
- Not because of anything Isaac or Jacob had done!

2. God's right to choose whom to bless

Rom 9:14 What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all!

Rom 9:15 **For he says to Moses,**

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,

and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."^[6]

Rom 9:16 It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

Rom 9:17 For the 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."^[7]

Rom 9:18 Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.

Note, Pharaoh not innocent in his hardening:

- Stubborn from beginning Ex 3:19
- His heart unyielding Ex 7:14
- He hardens own heart Ex 8:15, 8:32, 9:34

God had that right.

Rom 9:22 What if God, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath--prepared for destruction?

Rom 9:23 What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory--

Rom 9:24 even us, whom he also called, **not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles?**

Rom 9:25 As he says in Hosea:

"I will call them 'my people' who are not my people;
and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one,"

Rom 9:26 and,

"It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them,
'You are not my people,'
they will be called 'sons of the living God.' "

Like Pharaoh, Jews also not innocent in their hardening:

Rom 9:30 What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith;

Rom 9:31 but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it.

Rom 9:32 Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the "stumbling stone."

Rom 9:33 As it is written:

"See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall,
and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

God had told the Jews about this through the prophets (Hoseah, Isaiah)!

3. The Gospel and the Jew

Rom 10:5 Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." [**ie, works**]

Rom 10:6 But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down)

Rom 10:7 "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [**ie, not by works. You can't make it happen!**]

Rom 10:8 But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: [**God provides answer**]

Rom 10:9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [**Contrast to law!**]

Rom 10:10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Rom 10:11 As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

Rom 10:12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,

Rom 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."
[**Jew and Gentile alike!**]"

Rom 10:14-18 Wasn't the Gospel preached to the Jew? (of course!)

Rom 10:19-21 Excused by their lack of understanding?

- No, just as Gentiles had not been
- Jews never had really understood—just like Gentiles

Rom 11:1-10 Jews rejected by God? No! Look at all the Jewish Christians!

- Remnant, chosen by Grace! (Elijah, 7000 who had not bowed to Baal)
- Not all Israel, but just the elect

Rom 11:7 What then? What Israel sought so earnestly it did not obtain, but the elect did. The others were hardened,

Rom 11:13 I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry

Rom 11:14 in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and **save some of them.**

4. The Gospel and the Gentile

Rom 11:17 If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root,

Rom 11:18 **do not boast over those branches.** If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you.

Rom 11:19 You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in."

Rom 11:20 Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid.

Rom 11:21 **For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either.**

Rom 11:22 **Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off.**

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

Rom 11:24 After all, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!

God is more than willing to graft the natural branches back into the tree!

6. All (true) Israel will be saved

Rom 11:25 I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part **until the full number of the Gentiles** has come in. [**Jews at a disadvantage for a time**]

Rom 11:26 And so **all Israel** [The whole olive tree] will be saved, as it is written:

"The deliverer will come from Zion;
he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.

Rom 11:27 And this is my covenant with them
when I take away their sins."

Rom 11:28 As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs,

Rom 11:29 for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.

Rom 11:30 **Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience,**

Rom 11:31 **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.**

Rom 11:32 For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

Sounds like many Jews will be grafted back into the olive tree at some point. God is certainly leaving the opportunity open for them. Still will be based on belief and repentance.

Isa 59:20 **"The Redeemer will come to Zion,**
to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,"
declares the LORD.

See verse 14, 23... "*some of them*" "*if they do not persist in unbelief*"

Rom 11:14 in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and **save some of them.**

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

Gospel shows the glory of God

Rom 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!

Rom 11:34 "Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?"

No man could have made this plan!

No man can "trace it out". Beyond our comprehension.

Rom 11:35 "Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay him?"

Not something God had to do. Proves God's mercy.

Rom 11:36 For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be the glory forever! Amen.