Bible Study 05/25/22 Rev. Brandon L. Thornton

# \*\*\*Ch. 9 God has a Plan in Mind for Israel.

**Paul's Concern for Israel** (keep this in mind, also the question why was he concerned?)

"that I have **great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.** For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh." Verses 2-3

#1- Isaac over Ishmael

"But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." (6-7)

Did God choose Isaac or Ishmael?

#2 - Jacob over Esau

"And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— she was told, "The older will serve the younger." (10-12)

#### #3 - Pharaoh

For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth. (17)

\*\*\*Paul is saying: Just as God used Pharaoh's rejection of HIM to redeem God's chosen people from Egypt, God can use the Jew's rejection of Jesus Christ to fulfill God's plan of redemption for the Gentiles.\*\*\*

Is God Unfair?

What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. (14-16)

# Self Righteousness is NOT Enough!

What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, (30-31)

#### \*\*\* Ch. 10 Zeal Without Knowledge

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.(1-2)

It's sadly possible for people to have a strong zeal (great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or an objective) for God without knowledge.

#### Paul Says "I can relate because I was once in those same shoes; but I learned better..." How so?

#### It's Not Hard to Understand how to accept the finished work of Christ.

But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? (6-7)

He says: "The word is near you, **in your mouth and in your heart**" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);"(8)

What do you do with this word?

"because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." (9-11)

### \*\*\* Ch. 11 Everyone can be Saved...

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.(1)

"So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous" (11)

# It was all apart of God's plan to allow the Jews' (Israelites) rejection of Jesus Christ to open of the door to the gentiles.

"Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean!"(12)

"Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them." (13-14)

Although the foundation of God's chosen people were the Jews, Paul uses the allegory of cutting branches off and grafting the gentiles in... Some Jews were broken off because of their unbelief. (reference to verse 20)

"So do not become proud, but fear. For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you." (20-21)

### \*\*\* Ch. 12. The Practice of Salvation Based on what you know; how do you live?

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (1.)

Based on the 1<sup>st</sup> 11 chapters; Saved by grace, through faith, redemption through Christ, Peace with God, the Power of the Holy Spirit, nothing can separate you from the Love of God which is in Christ Jesus, God's wrath is not over you any longer, you're free from the law, from the power of sin; no longer slaves;

Based on all of those things, Paul says: the least you can do is present yourself as living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God...

### Don't do what the World does...

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (2)

# As a believer, what should you be DOING now?

"Having **gifts** that differ according to **the grace given** to us, **let us use them:** if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. (6-8)

As a believer, WHO ARE YOU? How should your character be?

"Let **love** be genuine. **Abhor**(hating) what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing **honor**. Do not be slothful in **zeal**, be fervent in **spirit**, serve the Lord. **Rejoice** in hope, be **patient** in tribulation, be constant in **prayer**."(9-12)