

Have the OT Covenant Promises of God to Israel, Failed? Romans 9:19-29

Introduction

1. Paul's heartache (Rom.9:1-5)

"I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish (grief-NASB) in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off (separated-NASB) from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race (according to the flesh-NASB)" (9:2-3)

1. Reason behind Paul's heartache (Rom.9:4-5)

Only Israel had the means whereby they might be saved (Rom.9:4-5)

But,

2. The Jewish response to the privileges?

The Jewish leadership and Jewish people largely rejected the gospel Paul preached

This meant that the Jews had rejected the authenticity of Paul's gospel

But, in reality/Biblically,

2. Why had the Jewish people largely rejected the Gospel? (9:6-7)

1. God's purposes revealed in His Word had not failed (9:6a)

"(But-ESV) It is not as though God's word had (has-ESV) failed" (9:6a)

And,

2. What were God's purposes? (9:6b)

"For not all who are descended from Israel are (belong to-ESV) Israel" (9:6b)

3. Who then (according to God's purposes) would be saved?

1. The elect: Isaac not Ishmael (9:7b-9)

2. The elect: Jacob not Esau (9:10-13)

3. The elect:

Moses not Pharaoh (9:15-18) (Israel not Egypt)

1. Election: Objections

1. God unjust (Rom.9:14)

1. Justice would bring about the condemnation and damnation of us all

2. Salvation is all of mercy

2. God's sovereignty neutralizes human responsibility (9:18-19)

2. God's response: The creature and the Creator (9:20-21; Is.29:16; 45:9; Jer.18:1-6)

1. The OT background to Rom.9:20-21 (Is.29:16; 45:9; Jer.18:1-6)

2. God's warning (Is.45:9a)

3. The rationale behind His warning (Is.45:9a)

1. God our Creator (Is.45:9)

2. The nature of the quarrel (Is.45:9)

1. "What are you making?" (45:9)
2. "The potter has no hands'?" (45:9)

4. An important reminder: The creature is alive by grace (Is.45:9)

5. "Questioning" and "challenging"

3. God's purposes in history (Rom.9:22-23)

1. Egypt and the wrath of God (Rom.9:22)

1. The Exodus event: God's purposes to enslave Abraham's descendants and deliver them (Gen.15:13-14)

2. The Exodus event: The hardening of Pharaoh's heart (Rom.9:17,18, 22)

2. The Exodus event: Grace and the riches of His glory (Rom.9:22)

1. The Exodus is an objective historical testimony to the miraculous power of God (Rom.9:23,17)

2. Many of those who were physically delivered from Egypt never had their hearts delivered from Egypt (Ex.32:8)

3. There were those who believed (Rom.9:23)

1. That some would receive mercy was pre-ordained by God (9:23b; 8:29-30)

2. Those who receive mercy come to know God through God revealing His works to them supernaturally (Rom.9:23a)

4. God's promise to Abraham fulfilled (Gen.12:3)

1. The Jewish people were given the means of salvation (Rom.9:1-5)

2. It was also to be a blessing to the nations (Rom.9:17; Gen.12:3c)

3. With the coming of the Messiah, salvation would be conferred upon Gentiles as well (Rom.9:24; Is.42:6-7)

1. In Rom.9:25-26, Paul quotes Hos.2:23 and Hos.1:10

2. In Rom.9:27-29, Paul quotes Is.10:22-23

Conclusion