

## Righteousness: The Necessary and Essential State Romans 9:30-10:4

### Introduction

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

Only Israel had the means whereby they might be saved (Rom.9:4-5)
  2. The Jewish response to these 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
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)
  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)
  4. From amongst Israel not Egypt (This is the testimony of the OT)
4. God electing a people for Himself: Objections
  1. God unjust (9:14)
 

“What then shall we say? Is God unjust. Not at all! (By no means-ESV)” (9:14)

    1. Justice would bring about the condemnation and damnation of us all
    2. Salvation of any person is all of mercy
 

God may display mercy in whatever way He deems fit (mercy is totally undeserved)
  2. In God's sovereignty, He has mercy on some sinners and hardens others, as it pleases Him (9:18-19)
 

(Therefore, if God is Almighty and irresistible, then, how can He blame Israel for not repenting?)

God's response:

    1. Remember: The creature (and more than that, the sinful creature) has no right to challenge the Creator (9:20-21; Is.29:16; 45:9; Jer.18:1-6)
 

“Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes (honourable use-NASB) and some for common use (dishonourable use-ESV)? (9:21)
    2. Remember: Sinful humanity continues to exist, based only on God's grace and mercy
    3. Remember: God chose the 'vessels of mercy' and 'prepared (them) in advance for glory' (Rom.9:23)
    4. Remember: The 'vessels of mercy' include Jews and Gentiles as promised to Abraham (Rom.9:24; Gen.12:3)

**1. The structure: Regarding God's dealing with Gentiles and Israel (Rom.9:30ff)**

**2. The theme: The greatest treasure (Rom.9:30,31,32; 10:3,4)**

**3. The recipients of the greatest treasure**

**1. Gentiles (9:30)**

**2. Israel (9:31)**

**4. The way to the greatest treasure**

**1. Gentiles (9:30)**

1. Consider: The nature of the Gentiles (Eph.2:11-12; 4:17-18)

2. What was conferred upon the Gentiles? (9:30)

**2. Israel (9:31)**

1. They were dedicated (Rom.9:31)

1. They “pursued” righteousness (Rom.9:31,32)

2. They were, “zealous” for God (10:2; Acts 22:3-5)

2. Israel believed that obedience to God’s law was the way to eternal life (Rom.9:31)

1. Israel, world religions and the cults (Lk.18:9-12)

2. Israel, world religions and the cults: The common religious factor

**3. Eternal truths that Israel failed to comprehend**

1. Israel: Misdirected zeal (Rom.10:2)

2. Israel: Misunderstanding of the law (Rom.9:31)

3. Israel: Misunderstanding of sin (Rom.9:32; 10:3; Gal.3:24)

4. Israel: Misunderstanding of the substitutionary work of the Messiah (9:32b-33; 10:4)

Jesus (The Christ) represents sinners in:

1.

Jesus (The Christ) represents sinners in:

2.

5. Israel: A misunderstanding of the means of salvation (Rom.9:30,32,33; 10:4)

**Conclusion (Ps.2:12; Jn.3:18)**