

# ROMANS: TRANSFORMED BY GRACE

(Romans 9:1-6)

Did you give any gifts that were returned this Christmas? Any one not like or reject the gift you were excited to give? Wrong size? Wrong style? Wrong universe? If you did, you are in great company (me /Paul) =*Jews reject J.*

Remember, if we understand Paul's letter to the Romans, we have a compass to navigate our way through the rest of Holy Scripture.

Theme of Romans: God's **Righteousness**: How to be in right standing/relationship w/Holy God!

## 5 Themes Throughout Book of Romans

- A. **Justification by Faith** (Romans 1-4) Key Verse: **Rom. 3:21-24**
- B. **Union with Christ** (Romans 6-8) = Sanctification (being conformed to Christ's image)
- C. **Sovereignty of God in Salvation: God's election; Predestination; & Free Will** (Ro. 9-11)
- D. **The Fate of the Jews**; the remnant; the summation of Covenant Theology/Replacement Th.
- E. **What does a Messianic Jew do with the Law?** What does a pagan convert do w/old practices
- F. What about **Gray** areas of life/hard choices? (Rom. 12-14)/ & **Legalism VS. Antinomianism**  
(**Gray** areas: **To drink alcohol/not? Rated R movies? Music? Vape/smoke? Visit temples/mosq?**)
- E. The **Romans ROAD**: How to lead someone to salvation using 5 key verses in Romans

Theme of Chs. 9-11: **God's sovereign faithfulness in His redemptive purposes first to the Jews and now to the Gentiles too:**

Chps 9-11 fill out one complete passage dealing with God's Covenant people Israel. Their past salvation and their current salvation. And how the gospel now relates to the Jews/all people.

Paul is making an argument to the Jews that even though they have been the Covenant people of God and that they have always been saved by **Faith** in the One true Covenant God and through belief in the coming Messiah – For ethnic/national Israel, **NOW their situation=changed/evolved.**

Romans 9:1-10

I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying; my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup> that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed, *separated* from Christ for the sake of my countrymen [Jewish people], my kinsmen according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons *and daughters*, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Law, the *temple* service, and the promises; <sup>5</sup> whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen. <sup>6</sup> But *it is* not as though the word of God has failed. For they are **not** all Israel who are *descended* from Israel; <sup>7</sup> nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "through Isaac your descendants shall be named." <sup>8</sup> That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants. <sup>9</sup> For this is the word of promise: "At this time I will come, and Sarah will have a son." <sup>10</sup> And not only *that*, but there was also Rebekah, when she had conceived *twins* by one man, our father Isaac; <sup>11</sup> for though *the twins* were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, **so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand** [remain], not because of works but because of Him who calls, <sup>12</sup> it was said to her, "The older will serve the younger." <sup>13</sup> Just as it is written: "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated."

1. Ch.9 Vss. 1-3 Paul is making an appeal (hypothetical) but deadly serious: Paul: I would trade my eternal salvation for the Jews' (If they would just humble themselves & accept Jesus as the true & promised Messiah). **Who do you love so much you would trade your life/theirs? -Who do you love so much you would trade your eternity in Heaven to spend et. in hell?**

-Who are you currently praying for/salv. – Who's your One?? Who are you sharing with?

2. Paul is informing the Jewish people that what they believe about God (Theology) =changing (Progressive Revelation) – God has the Sovereign right to change the plan if He wants!

**-Deliver \$100 bill each week in your mailbox for one year. Then change to your neighbor. Unfair?**

A. God sovereignly elected/chose Israel to be *His own* Covenant people. (They didn't earn it)

B. God sovereignly blessed them, protected them, rescued them, & used them to show world =His own Glory & worth as the One true God!

-Deut. 7:6-11 "For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord **your God has chosen you** to be a people for His personal possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the <sup>l</sup>earth.<sup>7</sup> "The Lord did not <sup>l</sup>make you His beloved nor choose you because you were greater in number than any of the peoples, since you were the fewest of all peoples [weakest], <sup>8</sup> but because the Lord loves you and kept the oath [promise] which He swore to your forefathers, the Lord brought you out by a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His faithfulness to a thousand generations *for those* who love Him and keep His commandments; <sup>10</sup> but He repays those who hate Him to their faces, to eliminate them; He will not hesitate toward him who hates Him, He will repay him to his face. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, you shall keep the commandment, the statutes, and the judgments which I am commanding you today, to do them."

C. God has favored Israel and blessed them w/ everything they ever needed to His people/holy

**Vs.4:** These who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons *and daughters*, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Law, the *temple* service, and the promises; <sup>5</sup> whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen. Consider the Jews' blessing to that point in O.T. history: God called em, rescued them, blessed them.

1-**Preeminence:** (Adoption: Election by God for Israel -for God's pleasure/purpose)=Redemption

2-Divine **Pledge:** (God-ordained Covenants with Israel: Conditional & Unconditional/David)

3-**Precepts:** God's Law (How to live to please God, neighbor, nations) -Moral/Lev./Cer./Civil

4-God's very **Presence:** Tabernacle/Temple (God *led* His people & then *dwelt* w/His people)

5-**Promises** (How God would continue to bless as they followed, loved, & obeyed the Lord)

6-**Paternity:** Fathers (Wisdom & lineage; history of Faithfulness & great usefulness to the Lord)

7-Eternal **Provision:** Messiah – Jesus was Jewish & came for the Jewish people (Mt. 2:2)

-Vs. 5 from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who *is* over all, **God**, & blessed forever.

Amen. Paul is reminding his readers that Jesus is the Messiah, Christ & IS God!!!!

-Consider *ALL* the ways that God blessed and favored Israel as His Covenant people.

-Paul is here distinguishing between Ethnic/National Israel & Faithful/spiritual Jewish individ.

**Remember:**

-**Salvation in the OT was always through saving Faith:** *in God and in His promised Messiah --*

-Rom. 3:21-22 *But now apart <sup>l</sup>from the Law the righteousness of God has been revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> but it is the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those <sup>l</sup>who believe; for there is no distinction*

-Vs .28-30 *For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from works of the Law. <sup>29</sup> Or is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, <sup>30</sup> since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one.*

-Abraham (Father of Judaism)=Rom4:5 His belief/faith=salvation and this pre-dates Judaism.

For the Jewish people: Salvation was never in Circumcision; not in keeping the Law/perfectly, not in keeping Jewish religious ceremony or keeping Jewish traditions or feasts; faithful to Torah; not in just "being" Jewish - a true descendant of Abraham; Not in converting to Judaism.

So Paul reminds his readers that God has given progressive revelation. There is NEW information and it's vital: That saving faith now includes belief in Jesus of Nazareth -Messiah. -And everyone who rejects Jesus, now rejects His Father, who is God the Father.

-John 1:12 "But <sup>[a]</sup>as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who <sup>[b]</sup>believe in His name"

-John 5:23 "The one who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him."

-1 John 2:23 "Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father"

-1 John 5:10-12 "The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. <sup>11</sup> And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup> The one who has the Son has the life; the one who does not have the Son of God does not have the life."

**-Any Jew who rejects Jesus as Messiah** (Jesus being revealed as Messiah is part of God's progressive revelation – though it was promised & expected) – **is lost & and is no longer part of God's heritage of faithful Judaism. You can be Jewish, but no longer a part of God's Covenant people (now or for the future).** This is NOT anti-semitic lang. (no place for hate in Christianity. We are to fight for justice for Jew & gentile -but real justice/peace comes via Jesus!!

**Jesus came to bring salvation to the Jews: But the Jews rejected Him; crucified Him. *Still do***

-Mt 23:37 Jesus cried: "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who have been sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling."

**Therefore Paul states:**

**Vs. 6** But *it is* not as though the word of God has failed. For they are **not** all Israel who are *descended* from Israel; <sup>7</sup> nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "through Isaac your descendants shall be named."

**-There may be two "Israels" symbolically speaking:** Ethnic & *spiritual* Israel. But only 1 People  
-Ethnic Israel/National Israel/The Country of Israel/Political State=Secular state; many atheists; mostly non-religious country. Small minority are practicing & the Orthodox/Ultraorthodox

\*But the Jew who believes upon Jesus as Savior is a REAL Jew now; a Spiritual Jew

\*\*The Gentile who also believes in Jesus as Savior is considered a spiritual Jew (spiritual descendants of Abraham -Gal. 3:7; 29; Believers are now "Children of the Promise, Like Isaac" Gal. 4:28); More importantly – Jewishness as an Identity fades away IF a Jew is In Christ:

-Rom. 10:12 "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; In God's new dispensation of Grace -in Christ, **He has ONE people.**

-So what does that mean for the rest of the world and the hard-hearted Jewish people w/o Jesus  
=No Jew is going to heaven without a saving Faith rel. w/ Jesus the Messiah. (Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12)  
=NO Gentile is going to heaven w/out a saving faith relationship Jesus Christ as Savior/Lord!

### APPLICATION:

-No one can stand on their religious heritage, background, or experience to save them.

-ALL of us need to be reminded that our expectations can be wrong; what we think about God (our theology), the Bible, and what we expect God do to – all of these can be WRONG.

=The Bible alone dictates what is True! Since the Bible is God's fullest revelation of Himself to us

-I must yield my expectations (justice/perception of God's actions/my wants) & obey God

-Jesus wants my heart, my surrender to His Lordship in all things; Why not today??