

ROMANS 9:1-5

Quick Review:

1. Paul has put down the two foundations found in his grace gospel in the first section of Romans.
 - a. Chapters 1-5 deal with the wrath of God and show the remedy for man's sin nature. They show the wisdom of God for an eternal life by faith, and then show our security we have being justified by faith (our justification).
 - b. Chapters 6-8 These lay down living under grace, being dead to sin and walking in Christ. We are not under the law-but now serving Christ in the newness of the Spirit. We are now led by the Holy Spirit - being sanctified and being a part of the family of God (our sanctification).
2. Now, in Paul lays down the third foundation. This deals with the central issue of the "Dispensation of Grace" Chapters 9-11 and what has happened to the nation of Israel (God's once special appointed people) at that time.
 - a. Chapter 9 deals with Israel's past and sets forth God's sovereignty and purpose of God's elect.
 - b. Chapter 10 focuses on Israel's present, in setting forth God's righteousness and salvation.
 - c. Chapter 11 deals with Israel's future, in showing God's faithfulness and restoration to His people.
3. Paul has now come to an end of his first major section - the doctrine portion of his epistle. Paul has discussed the principles of the gospel (man's salvation and sanctification) and now, in the next three chapters brings up the problems of the grace gospel that relate to the Jewish people.
 - * Paul makes an abrupt change in his teaching before continuing - starting at Chapter 12 again.

*In verses 1-3, we see Paul's an-deeply and emotionally dis-heart with a deep agony in these words.

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anguish for his Jewish brethren. Paul is traught in his

1. Here Paul affirms his love and anguish for his own nation - Israel, even though they have beaten him, cursed him, and imprisoned him. Yet, here he is about to speak concerning his love for them.

Romans 9:1 - I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,

- a. Paul says, "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not,..." - I am telling you the truth and the Lord knows my heart.
- b. The last part of the verse, Paul is confirming his conscience is bearing him witness by the Holy Spirit- confirming that he is telling the truth.
1. Here we begin to see Paul's anguish and sorrow in his heart for his countrymen - his love for the nation Israel.

Romans 9:2-3 - That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. Rom. 9:3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

- a. Paul's passion for his own Jewish brethren was such that he could actually and honestly say he would be willing to go to hell and give up heaven if it meant Israel would be saved.
 - b. Paul even could wish himself "accursed", or cut off from Christ, and to forfeit his salvation if his people might be saved.
 - c. Starting in Chapter 1 of Romans, Paul expressed his deep love for the Gentiles. But here, starting in Chapter 9, he tells of his deep love for his unbelieving kinsmen.
2. Paul is so burdened for his own people. Israel was so close to their promises from God, yet their rejection of Jesus being their Messiah caused them to be in unbelief and spiritually dead - eventually on their way to hell.
 3. Moses was filled with a similar love for his kinsmen in Exodus 32.

Exodus 32:32 - Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.

4. We know today that Paul could not actually fulfill his wish here, although he said it in all sincerity and truth.

Why could Paul not do this?

*In Romans 9 (verse 4 & 5), Paul explains the advantages and privileges that Israel had obtained from God.

1. First, we see they are Israelites - members of God's chosen people. These are the ones that had descended

Romans 9:4-5 - Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service *of God*, and the promises; Rom. 9:5 Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

from Jacob.

Genesis 32:28 - And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

2. Paul wants his Jewish people to know what belonged to them, that they were a special chosen people - blessed by God in a unique way with privileges.

Deuteronomy 7:6-8 - For thou *art* an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that *are* upon the face of the earth. Deut. 7:7 The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye *were* the fewest of all people: Deut. 7:8 But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

3. The Israelites had numerous benefits and advantages given them and no other nation has ever been given so much from God.

Romans 3:1-2 - What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit *is there* of circumcision? Rom. 3:2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.

4. Paul will then list these privileges in verse 4.

- a. "the adoption" - They were given the privilege of sonship with God.

Exodus 4:22 - And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel *is* my son, *even* my first-born:

Hosea 11:1 - When Israel *was* a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

- b. "the glory" - One day God will declare that they will have the light and brightness over their land (the cloud of fire).

Exodus 40:34-35 - Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Exo. 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

- c. "the covenants" - These would be God's legal contracts with them, particularly about the land and their salvation. Notice, it says covenants - meaning many covenants.

(1) The Abrahamic Covenant - God promised that out of Abraham would come a great nation with a promised land. This is the everlasting covenant found in Genesis 17:1-14.

(2) The Mosaic Covenant - a conditional, legal covenant requiring Israel's obedience to keep God's commandments.

Exodus 19:5-8 - Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth *is* mine: Exo. 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These *are* the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel. Exo. 19:7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him. Exo. 19:8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.

(3) The Palestinian Covenant - the covenant of a worldwide regathering of the Jews and the repossession of the land, following their captivity.

Genesis 15:18 - In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

(4) The Davidic Covenant - this covenant promised an eternal house, where One on the throne would reside as King - namely Christ.

2 Samuel 7:16 - And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

1 Chronicles 17:1-15 (God's covenant with David) - Now it came to pass, as David sat in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, Lo, I dwell in an house of cedars, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD *remaineth* under curtains. 1Ch 17:2 Then Nathan said unto David, Do all that *is* in thine heart; for God *is* with thee. 1Ch 17:3 And it came to pass the same night, that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, 1Ch 17:4 Go and tell David my servant, Thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not build me an house to dwell in: 1Ch 17:5 For I have not dwelt in an house since the day that I brought up Israel unto this day; but have gone from tent to tent, and from *one* tabernacle *to another*. 1Ch 17:6 Wheresoever I have walked with all Israel, spake I a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people, saying, Why have ye not built me an house of cedars? 1Ch 17:7 Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, *even* from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be ruler over my people Israel: 1Ch 17:8 And I have been with thee whithersoever thou hast walked, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee, and have made thee a name like the name of the great men that *are* in the earth. 1Ch 17:9 Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning, 1Ch 17:10 And since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over my people Israel. Moreover I will subdue all thine enemies. Further more I tell thee that the LORD will build thee an house. 1Ch 17:11 And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go *to be* with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom.

1Ch 17:12 He shall build me an house, and I will stablish his throne for ever. 1Ch 17:13 I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took *it* from *him* that was before thee: 1Ch 17:14 But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore. 1Ch 17:15 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

- (5) The New Covenant - This speaks of when God's law and God's Spirit would be put into His people again.

Ezekiel 36:26-28 - A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. Eze. 36:27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*. Eze. 36:28 And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

*This will be fulfilled when Christ comes in His 2nd advent.

- d. "the giving of the law" - This was given by God (the Mosaic Law) to no other nation in the world, only given specifically to Israel.

Deuteronomy 4:8 - And what nation *is there so* great, that hath statutes and judgments *so* righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

- e. "the service of God" - This is the ceremonial ritual of worship associated with the law given in Exodus and Leviticus.

Hebrews 9:1, 6 - Then verily the first *covenant* had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. Heb. 9:6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service *of God*.

- f. "the promises" - This refers to the great Messianic hopes for Israel.

Zechariah 14:9 - And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

*This would be all the things that were predicted to come to Israel.

*Great were all these privileges, but there was one that eclipsed them all. Paul saved the best one for last in verse 5 about Christ.

1. Here we see "the fathers" mentioned, the patriarchs of Israel (Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob) and God's love for these three men.

Romans 9:5 - Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Exodus 32:13 - Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit *it* for ever.

2. Most Bibles today retranslate part of this verse, where it says, "Christ came, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen."
- a. Christ here is God! (God Almighty) They try to take Christ's deity away.
 - b. Jesus was born of a Jewish mother and reared in an Hebrew home. He attended a Jewish synagogue, where he received a Jewish education.

c. So, out of the seed of "the fathers", Christ was born according to the flesh. This we see of His lineage-being the greatest Person who was ever born as a Jew.

3. As to His humanity, Jesus is an Israelite. As to His Deity, He is "over all, God blessed forever".

In Closing:

The Jewish people rightfully claimed the patriarchs as their own (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the twelve sons of Jacob). These were the forefathers of the nation Israel and they had the greatest privilege of all - the coming Messiah in Jesus Christ, as an Israelite of human descent and being God Himself.

**The Question Is: Did Israel benefit from all the advantages given to them?

**The Answer Is: They dishonored and even despised God the Father. Though there were godly exceptions of men like Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Caleb, Daniel, David, Jeremiah, and several others - the nation Israel for the most part did not take advantage of what they had.