

**I. Introduction and review: A new major section in the book of Romans.**

**A. The problem (scandal) of Jewish unbelief. v. 6a**

1. If the gospel is the fulfillment of the Old Covenant (and God's plan for Israel), then why has Israel rejected the gospel? Has God's plan failed? 1:16-17
2. Can we rely upon His promises to us? 8:31-39
3. Has the church taken over Israel's status as God's chosen people?
4. What is the place of Israel in God's plan for the future?

**B. Paul's theodicy (a defense of God).**

1. What has happened to Israel is according to God's sovereign choice. 9:6-29
2. Israel is responsible for her plight. She has resisted God's Word. 9:30-10:29
3. Israel's rejection is neither total nor final. 11:1-32
4. Praise God for His amazing wisdom. 11:33-36

**C. Paul is also defending himself against the accusation of being a traitor to the Jews.**

**II. Israel's unbelief is tragic, in light of their great privileges. v. 4-5**

**A. They were blessed as no other nation has been blessed. 3:1-2 2:17-18 Ps. 147:19-20**

1. Their name: Israelites. Ge. 32:22-28 48:16 Jo. 1:47 Acts 2:22 21:28 II Co. 11:22 Isa. 5:2 48:1 Num. 23:9 Ex. 4:22 Phil. 3:5 Eph. 2:12
2. The adoption as sons. Ex. 4:22-23 Hos. 11:1,10 12:3 Deut. 14:1-2 Jer. 31:9 Ex. 19:5-6 Isa. 43:20 51:1 46:3-4 63:16 64:8 Mal. 1:6 2:10
3. The glory (shekinah). Ex. 14:20 16:10 24:16-17 25:22 30:23 29:42f 40:34f I Ki. 8:10-11 Heb. 9:5 I Sam. 4:22 Lev. 16:2 9:23 II Chron. 7:1-2 Num. 14:10 16:19,42 Ezek. 1:28 Rev. 15:8 Hag. 2:7
4. The covenant(s). Ex. 24:8 Eph. 2:12 Gen. 15:18 17:4-21 Deut. 27:2 Josh. 8:30f 24:25 II Sa. 23:5 Ps. 89:28 Jer. 31:31-34 Ezek. 37:26 Lu. 1:72 Acts 3:25 11:27 2:38-39 Gal. 3:17-19 Eph. 2:12 Deut. 8:18 Lu. 1:72-73 Ps. 132:11f 89:3f
5. The law. 2:17 3:2 9:31-32 10:4-5 3:19-21 8:3 Ex. 20:1f Dt. 4:5-8,32-36 He. 12:18f
6. The temple service. Leviticus Heb. 9:1-4,6 Ex. 29:43-46
7. The promises. 4:13-14,16,20 9:8-9 15:8 Ge. 3:15 12:3 17:7 49:10 18:10,14 Isa. 55:3 Acts 2:39 13:23,32-34 26:6 Eph. 2:12 I Sam. 7:8-17 Gal. 3:16 I Co. 1:20 7:1
8. The fathers (patriarchs). 11:28 4:1 9:10,13 15:8 Ex. 3:15 Ge. 17:4 Acts 3:25 2:29
9. Their greatest privilege: from whom is Messiah's human nature. 1:3 Jo. 8:56 4:22 Mt. 1:1-17 Lu. 3:23-38 I Ti. 3:16 I Jo. 4:2

**B. What does this text say about the Person of Christ? v. 5b 1:25 His Divine nature.**

1. He is LORD over all. 1:3-4 10:12 14:9 Phil. 2:10 Eph. 1:20-23 4:6
2. Is Paul saying that Jesus Christ is God?
3. Some claim that Paul is merely concluding this section with a separate doxology to God (the Father). *God be blessed forever, Amen.*
4. The evidence is overwhelming that Paul is declaring the Deity of our Lord Jesus.
  - a. Grammatically the nearest antecedent to "Who" is Christ. 1:25
  - b. It appears that Paul is completing his contrast of the two natures of Jesus. 1:3
  - c. Paul and other new Testament authors ascribe Deity to Jesus Christ. 14:9 1:4 Phi. 2:6,10-11 Co. 1:15,19 2:9 I Co. 8:6 Ti. 2:13 II Th. 1:1 Ga. 4:4 Jo. 1:1 20:28
5. Both His humanity and His Deity are necessary for Him to complete His work.
6. The Deity of Christ makes Israel's failure all the more reprehensible. Acts 2:23

**C. Israel has failed to take advantage of her privileges. Acts 2:23 13:46**

Now their privileged position has been given to the church. 9:6,23 8:15,18 11:27 12:1 15:8 Ga. 6:16 3:16-19,29 4:5 ICo. 1:20 Acts 13:37f Eph. 2:11-22 1:5 I Pe. 2:9

### **III. Paul has a passionate concern for lost Israel. v. 1-3**

#### **A. Paul places himself under oath. v. 1**

- 1. The Jews see him as an enemy of Israel. 15:31 Acts 13:38-39,50 9:23 20:3 21:21f**
- 2. Paul bears witness to his sincere love for Israel.**
- 3. Is Paul violating Jesus' admonition not to swear an oath? Mt. 5:34 23:16-22**

#### **B. His heart is broken because of their unbelief. v. 2**

- 1. He mourns because his brethren according to the flesh are not his spiritual brothers. Mt. 10:34-37**
- 2. Paul's grief is intense and ongoing.**
- 3. True Christianity is not anti-Semitic. 1:16 2:10 11:26**

#### **C. The intensity of Paul's concern is demonstrated in that he could wish that he would be accursed (anathema) in the place of his brethren. Acts 26:29**

- 1. To be accursed is to be separated from Christ and devoted to destruction.  
Lev. 27:28-29 Deut. 7:27 13:16,18 Josh 6:17 7:1,11,12 Acts 23:14 I Co. 16:22**
- 2. Paul's love for Israel is Christlike. 5:6-10 3:24-25 8:32 Ga. 2:20 Ti. 2:14 Jo. 15:13  
II Co. 5:21 12:15 I Pe. 3:18 2:21 Heb. 10:12 Eph. 5:25 Mt. 20:28 II Co. 11:24-26**
- 3. Paul's love for the Jews reminds us of Moses' intercession for Israel. Ex. 32:10,32**
- 4. Such a love made Paul a powerful instrument for evangelism.**
- 5. Paul is no cold dry theologian.**
- 6. Paul, like Moses, will see the fulfillment of his longing in the deliverance of Israel.**

#### **D. Paul's love for the lost is a reflection of God's love for the lost.**

- 1. God sovereignly chooses who will be saved. 9:6f**
- 2. Yet God, in some sense, loves the lost, and sincerely offers them salvation.  
Isa. 45:22 Ezek. 33:11 Acts 17:30 Mt. 11:28 23:37 John 7:37 6:37 3:16**
- 3. This is a great mystery.**

#### **E. What is your attitude towards the lost?**

- 1. Are you a practical hypercalvinist?**
- 2. While God is sovereign, we should still long for and seek the salvation of the lost.**
- 3. Do you love the lost?**
- 4. Are you seeking the salvation of those who are in the darkness of unbelief?**
- 5. Do you present the gospel with passion?**
- 6. What are you willing to give for the lost?**
- 7. Do you proclaim the gospel boldly and expectantly? II Co. 5:20 Isa. 55:11**

### **IV. Concluding applications. 10:9-15 II Co. 5:20**

#### **Discussion questions for family worship**

- 1. What new subject does Paul address in Romans 9-11?**
- 2. What are some of the privileges of the Jews? v. 4-5**
- 3. What does verse 5 teach about the Person of Jesus Christ?**
- 4. Have the privileges of Israel been given to the church? Explain your answer.**
- 5. How does Paul prove the depth of his love for Israel?**
- 6. How is Paul's love Christlike?**
- 7. In what sense does God love the lost?**
- 8. How should we reflect God's love for the lost?**
- 9. What are you doing to reach the lost? What more would God have you do?**