



Jeremy White, Lead Pastor  
Valley Church

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Part 28: Paul's Passion for Others (Rom. 9:1-15)

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## Outline of Romans: Three Major Sections...

Chapters 1-3 – The DIAGNOSTIC Section

Chapters 4-11 – The DELIVERANCE Section

Chapters 12-16 – The DISCIPLESHIP Section

- In chapters 6-8, Paul teaches that the gospel of Jesus Christ delivers us from the *penalty* of sin, the *power* of sin and the *presence* of sin

## Chapters 9-11

These chapters are all about God's \_\_\_\_\_ to His people – both to Israel and the Church.

Romans 1:16-17

Romans 9:1-5

## Seven Significant Blessings God Had Given to Israel

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ to Sonship – divine choosing of the descendants of Abraham
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ Glory – leading them with signs and wonders
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ – Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, etc...
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ – the heart of God's Old Covenant relationship
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ – signs and symbols pointing to Messiah
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ – hundreds of prophetic commitments made by God
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ – guaranteeing the human ancestry of Messiah

Romans 9:6-15

Romans 11:33-36

**The Big Idea:** God is awesome beyond comprehension. He is faithful to His people...both Israel and the Church. He specializes in pouring grace upon the undeserving. Thank God that we all qualify!

## **QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

### **Personal Life:**

1. Are you familiar with the content of Romans 9-11? If so, do you have any ideas, insights or opinions you would like to share about the so-called "controversial" nature of these chapters?
2. How can it be that a passage focusing on the unity of Jews and Gentiles in the early church has become so divisive among some Christians today?

### **Ponderings:**

3. Read Romans 9:1-4 as a group. What insights do you gain about Paul's heart? How similar to Paul's attitudes are your own? Explain...
4. Read Romans 9:4-5 as a group. Paul lists seven specific ways in which God tried to prepare the Jews to receive the Messiah when He came. From your own understanding of the Old Testament story, why did the Jews largely reject Jesus?
5. Read Romans 9:6-14 as a group. In these verses, Paul emphasizes God's consistent activity of including the "undeserving" in His family and kingdom, using Isaac and Jacob (both "second-born" sons) as examples.
  - Can you think of any other examples in the Bible of major characters who were weak, undeserving, or unlikely heroes of the faith?
  - Why do you think God is so intent on making the point that only the "poor in spirit" can inherit the kingdom?
6. In Romans 9:13, Paul quotes Malachi as follows: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." Can you remember the contextual explanation for this given in the weekend message? Do you have any other thoughts or ideas about this verse that weren't covered in the message?
7. If a friend were to insist that God hates some people and loves others (using verse 13 for support), how would you respond biblically and intelligently?

### **Promptings:**

8. Are you 100% convinced that God truly does love every human being unconditionally? If this is true, why does God allow some to spend eternity separated from Him? How do these realities motivate you in the sharing of your faith with others?