

Christ -- The Great Divide
Romans 9:24-33

The Problem: Why are all of the Jews not saved? Rom 9:1-5

1. Paul's compassion for his lost countrymen who have incredible blessings. Rom 9:1-5.
2. Ans. #1: God's Promise Didn't Fail -- God Never Determined To Save All Jews. Rom 9:6-24

ANSWER #2: God's Promise Did Not Fail Because God Never Said He Would Save All The Jews. Rom 9:23-33

In His Word, God Declared That He Would Save *Gentiles!* Romans 9:24-26

1. God's sovereign way of choosing individuals applies to Gentiles as well as Jews. Rom 9:24
2. God predicted the salvation of Gentiles back in Hosea 1. Rom 9:25-26.
 - ◆ God told the prophet Hosea to marry a woman who would betray him in adultery.
 - ◆ The purpose behind this was to demonstrate Israel's unfaithfulness to God.
 - ◆ Gomer bore three children. God named them:
 - Name him Jezreel* (To scatter): God would *scatter* the 10 tribes among the nations
 - Name her Lo-Ruhamah* (No compassion): God would show no love or pity
 - Name him Lo-Ammi* (Not my people): They would cease to be His special people
 - ◆ God judged the 10 tribes thru Assyria (722 BC) & scattered them among the nations
 - ◆ However He promised that He would eventually do three things in the earth. Hos 2:23:
 - Sow* (Jezreel) *her* to Himself *in the Land* (opposite of Jezreel)
 - Have compassion* (*Ruhamah*) on those *who didn't have it* (opposite of Lo-Ruhamah)
 - Make them His people* (*Ammi*) *who were not His people* (opposite of Lo-Ammi)
3. Paul: These promises apply to the Gentiles whom God would draw, pity, & make His people.

In His Word, God Declared That He Would Judge Israel & Save Only A *Remnant!* Rom 9:27-29.

1. In Isaiah 10, God predicted that only a few Jews would be saved. Rom 9:27-28.
 - ◆ There would be many Jews (even in reconstituted Israel). Hosea 1:10; Isa 10:22a.
 - ◆ Yet only a *remnant* would be saved. Deut 3:11a; II Ki 19:30-31; I Ki 19:13-18
 - ◆ God said many times He would only save a *remnant*. Isa 10:20,21,22; 11:11,16; 28:25; Jer 23:3; 31:7; 50:20 Micah 2:12; 4:7; 5:7,8; 7:18; Zeph 1:4; 2:7; 3:13; Zech 8:6,11,12.
2. God said He would execute His Word (judgment) upon them. Cf. Rom 9:6.
3. God declared that it was His *mercy* that Israel was not completely wiped out! Rom 9:29.

Conclusion & Analysis: Rom 9:30-33.

1. The Gentiles found God's righteousness -- Israel did not. Rom 9:30-31.
 - ◆ *Righteousness* = Perfect righteousness. Justification. Cf. Romans 3-4.
 - ◆ The Gentiles did not *pursue* it (did not seek to earn God's favor) Yet they *attained* it.
 - ◆ Israel did *pursue* it (earn God's favor) Yet they did *not arrive*.
 - ◆ I.E. Those who sought good works as a way to God failed, those who didn't succeeded
2. How? Rom 9:32-33
 - ◆ Israel sought self-righteousness. They stumbled over Christ. They were offended by salvation totally in Someone else!
 - ◆ The Gentiles only *believed* in Christ & were not disappointed (they were saved)
 - ◆ To believe in Christ is to trust completely in Him who alone can save. Isa 28:15f; 8:14

Application

1. Realize: God's word about salvation, judgment, heaven, & hell is certain!
2. Give humble thanks: If you are saved, it is a result of the mighty mighty grace of God
3. Examine yourself: Not all are saved -- are *you* truly saved?