



## THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS "Israel's Rejection of Christ" Romans 9:1-33

No. 292

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Paul's presentation of the gospel of Christ was not at all acceptable to many Jews for obvious reasons. As a result, the veracity of his message and his own credibility were under fire. More than that, profound questions concerning election and rejection needed to be answered. They still do.

- Paul's sincere concern is evident. v. 1
  - Paul's delight is tinged with anguish. v. 2
  - Paul's intense feelings are displayed. v. 3
  - Paul's appreciation for Israel is on record. vv. 4-5
- In all this intensity of feeling, three things are clear:

### I. The Word of God Is Not Invalidated. vv. 6-13

Note: "Word of God" — His plan or purpose.

- A. God called Abram not Terah.
- B. God chose Isaac not Ishmael.
- C. God differentiated between Israel (natural) and Israel (spiritual).
- D. God sees children of promise and natural children differently.
- E. God "loved" Jacob and "hated" Esau.
  - 1. Note: Peoples not individuals. Malachi 1:2-3
  - 2. Note: Hyperbolic expression. Luke 14:26
- F. Nothing has changed by Israel's reaction.

### II. The Sovereignty of God Is Illuminated. vv. 14-19

Note: Some Jews believed that to be the "chosen people" was an eternal guarantee. And not to be the chosen people guaranteed an un-blessed state. For Paul to teach otherwise was, to them, to make God act unjustly.

- A. Is God unrighteous?
  - B. No — He is just to all.
  - C. He chooses to be merciful. e.g. Moses. See Exodus 33:19
  - D. He chooses to harden. e.g. Pharaoh. Exodus 9:16
- Note: Pharaoh's repeated hardening.

### III. The Consistency of God Is Illustrated. vv. 20-33

- A. God is consistent in His dealings.
  - 1. He is not deterred by His creatures' objections. vv. 20-21
  - 2. He is not bound by any man-made restrictions. vv. 22-24
- B. God is consistent in His devotion. vv. 25-29
  - 1. Devoted to His people.
  - 2. Devoted to His principles.
    - a. There will always be a remnant that God preserves.
    - b. There will always be rebellion that God resists.
- C. God is consistent in His determination. vv. 30-33
  - 1. No one is justified by keeping the Law.
  - 2. Anyone who receives grace by faith is justified.
  - 3. Christ is the issue...
  - 4. ...He's either a Stumbling Stone or the Bedrock.

**Thought:** Too often we look at God through man's eyes. Here He lets us take a peak through His eyes. The result — ?