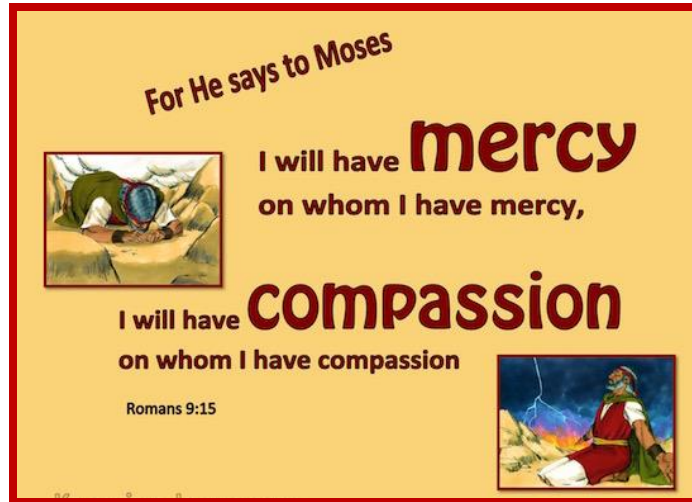


SUMMER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2016
THEME: TOWARD A NEW CREATION
UNIT TWO – A WORLD GONE WRONG

**“GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY OVER ISRAEL EXPRESSED
THROUGH HIS MERCY”**



Sunday School Lesson No. XI– August 14, 2016
Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Romans 9:6-18

Required Reading: Romans 9:1-29

Motto Texts: I Chronicles 16:34, *“O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.”*
Romans 9:18, *“Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.”*

Reliable Resources: All the Books and Chapters of the Bible (H. Lockyer); Understanding the 66 Books of the Bible (Dr. David Jeremiah); Expository Notes and Outlines on the Book of Romans (E. C. Gillentine); Word Search 10 Electronic Library; MacArthur Study Bible; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI Publishing); George Brooks Preaching Commentary; Analytical Bible Expositor; Wiersbe Expository Outlines, The Bible Exposition Commentary (Be Series), Warren Wiersbe; The Outline Bible, H. L. Willmington; Romans: God’s Sovereignty and Man’s Responsibility by Dr. David Jeremiah

INTRODUCTION

According to Dr. David Jeremiah, “...About two thousand years ago, the Apostle Paul was given supernatural revelation and insight, before the fact, concerning the perpetuity of the Jewish race. He called it a ‘mystery’ (something formerly concealed by God but now made known) and devoted three chapters of his letter to the Romans explaining God’s plan for His chosen people...But Romans 9 – 11 is not just about the Jews; it is about everyone else (the Gentiles) as well. In short, the Gentiles have been awakened to the opportunity to inherit the spiritual blessings promised to the Jews’ forefather, Abraham. Because the Jews rejected those blessings, God has set them aside temporarily ‘until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in’ (Rom. 11:25). When that purpose has been achieved, the Jews will collectively turn to God and worship the Messiah they once rejected.”

The lesson chapter opens with what is called “Paul’s Great Passion For His People” by David Jeremiah. Paul expresses such a love and devotion for his people the Israelites that he would be willing to suffer death and judgment to see them saved (9:3). Now let us examine my **Anticipated Power Points** for this lesson:

- **Paul Explains God’s Merciful Election of Abraham’s Descendants. Romans 9:6-13**
- **Paul Exposes God’s Merciful Protection of Abraham’s Covenant Descendants. Romans 9:14-18**

“God’s Sovereignty Over Israel Expressed Through His Mercy”

LESSON OUTLINE

I. Paul Explains God's Merciful Election of Abraham's Descendants. Romans 9:6-13

A. According to Butler, "The Sovereignty of God is the theme of this 9th chapter. The Jews, who are especially in focus in Romans 9, 10 and 11, were very upset about God giving the Gospel to the Gentiles, but if God is God, He surely has the right and the power to do as He pleases in any situation and with any people...Paul begins his treatment of the sovereignty of God by looking at how it favored the Jews. The Jews had no trouble with Divine sovereignty when it favored them; it was only when it favored the Gentiles that the Jews complained."

According to Butler in the Analytical Bible Expositor: "Paul enumerates the privileges of the Israelites..."

- Their selection as God's chosen people. 9:4
- The splendor of God's glory among them. 9:4
- The security of God's covenants. 9:4
- The statutes of God's Law among them. 9:4
- The sanctuary or Temple of service. 9:4
- The swearing of God's promises. 9:4
- The Sires or great fathers they had; Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. 9:5
- The Saviour who is Christ that rose from them. 9:5"

B. According to the Teacher's Commentary, Romans 9:7-13

"Paul went back into sacred history and showed that, first of all, the promises never included all physical descendants of Abraham. Ishmael, though a child of Abraham, was not included in the covenant promises; only Isaac was. (Gen. 21:12, *'And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.'*)

Later Jacob and Esau were born as twin sons of Isaac and Rebekah. But God's purpose included one, and excluded the other! Before the boys were even born (and thus before they could have done either good or bad, so that their actions were no basis for God's choice), God announced that one was chosen and the other rejected as a participant in the covenant line.

Note here that 'hated' (Rom. 9:13) is used in a legal rather than emotional sense...God chose Jacob to be heir to the promise, and decisively rejected any claims of his brother Esau. So far, then, Paul had established from history that the idea of 'Israel' has never meant simply the physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

II. Paul Exposes God's Merciful Protection of Abraham's Covenant Descendants. Romans 9:14-18

We close this lesson with the words of Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator's Martin R. Dahlquist: "Paul's logic brings a stiff response. In the end, is not God unrighteous or unjust? After all, God told Moses he would decide on whom He would harden. However, this is all God's prerogative, since He is sovereign. He will have mercy on whom He will. One must remember the focus of Romans 9 is God and not man."

CLOSING

Dr. David Jeremiah helps me close. "Paul teaches three principles in the first chapter of Ephesians about the Sovereignty of God.

- God's Will Is According To His Good Pleasure. Eph. 1:5
- God's Will Is A Mystery. Eph. 1:9
- God's Will Is According To His Own Counsel. Eph. 1:11

These three aspects of God's sovereignty are like three legs on a stool."

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Looking Ahead:

August 21, 2016

Romans 11:11-24

Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School Lesson