

A Gospel Worldview – Lesson 10

The Jewish Problem

Romans 9: 1-33

Why do some people believe in God, but live as if he does not exist?

Intro – Paul addresses the problem of the Jews. While some Jews followed Christ, the majority rejected Christ. The result is the Gentiles dominated the early church.

1. Paul was Heartbroken - Romans 9:1-5

- The tone of this passage in Chapter 9 through 11 has to be understood from the fact that Paul was disappointed and hurt that his people rejected Jesus Christ.

2. Racial descent did not make a person a Jew. - Romans 9:6-18

- Examples: Isaac vs Ishmael and Jacob vs. Esau
- Righteous Remnant (Isaiah 10:22)

3. God is Sovereign - Romans 10-29

Paul believed that because the Jews rejected Jesus Christ, that this was a part of God's plan.

4. The Fundamental Mistake - Romans 9:30-33

- Paul said that the Jews tried to get in a right relationship with God through their own efforts. "Earn their Salvation." While the Gentiles accepted the offer.

Observations

- Paul was directing this passage to the Gentiles and not the Jews. The purpose was to warn them of their arrogance toward the Jews. He wanted to explain that the Jews had a special place as God's chosen people in the salvation history.

- Paul wanted to express that the Old Covenant was important to the New Covenant through Jesus Christ and was not to be ignored.

Application:

1. Our hearts should break for those that reject God.
2. We need to develop a total trust in God and in His ways and plans. (Even if disappointments do not fit our idea of God.)
3. The New Testament is tied to the promises found in the Old Testament. And Israel was used by God to bring Christ to the World. Therefore, we should study and read the Old Testament as well as the New.