

## **All Israel is Not Israel**

### **Romans 9:6-13**

6 But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, 7 nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "In Isaac your seed shall be called." 8 That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed. 9 For this is the word of promise: "At this time I will come and Sarah shall have a son." 10 And not only this, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one man, even by our father Isaac 11 (for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), 12 it was said to her, "The older shall serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated."

It is too bad that we have to take this in small bites in order to cover it in 30 minute sections. But if we didn't it would be just too much at once.

When Paul sent this letter to the Romans, they had months to digest it and to understand it.

Remember Rome was the capital of the world with also many Jews a part of it as we see from Acts 28.

But they were nationally in darkness spiritually. As a whole the nation never did see Jesus as the Messiah.

They were blind spiritually.

Eventually through their continued rebellion against Rome they were exiled from Jerusalem and from Israel.

It was not until 1948 that they once again had their own nation. And not until 1967 that they once again controlled Jerusalem.

But still almost all Jews lie in unbelief. Most do not even believe in God. There is a small but powerful segment that are very orthodox and are still waiting for the Messiah but most thing Israel must be their own Messiah.

So how do we reconcile this with all the great promises and covenants that we spoke of last week?

How do we reconcile those promises of blessing with the fact that they have rejected and killed their Messiah?

Paul has the answer and he begins to explain it to us this week.

- I. The problem is not with the word of God. V-6
  - A. The problem is never with the word of God, or the Gospel.
    - 1. Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit,

and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

2. Isaiah 55:11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.
3. 1 Corinthians 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
4. Romans 1:16 ¶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
5. 1 Corinthians 1:23-24 (NKJV) 23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

B. It is not the seed but ground.

1. Mark 4:1-41 (NKJV) 1 And again He began to teach by the sea. And a great multitude was gathered to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat in it on the sea; and the whole multitude was on the land facing the sea. 2 Then He taught them many things by parables, and said to them in His teaching: 3 "Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And it happened, as he sowed, that some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds of the air came and devoured it. 5 Some fell on stony ground, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth. 6 But when the sun was up it was scorched, and because it had no root it withered away. 7 And some seed fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no crop. 8 But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred." 9 And He said to them, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

C. The Jews because of their continual rejection of the word of God were blinded from recognizing Jesus as the Messiah.

1. But what about those passages that say when you seek God with all your heart you will find Him.
  - a. The coach tells the team before the game that the game is their's and they can win if they just want it bad enough, is that true, some times.
  - b. But let's say the team comes out and they break all the rules, they run with the ball, they foul the opposing team, they run off the

court, etc.

- c. Then they say to the coach, coach we wanted to win look how hard we tried. What would the coach say. He would tell them they didn't keep the rules.
- d. Well you see God makes the rules and although Israel sought after God they wanted to make the rules and set the goals for themselves.
- e. Romans 9:16 So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.

- 2. Isaiah 6:10 "Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed."
- 3. Isaiah 44:18 They do not know nor understand; For He has shut their eyes, so that they cannot see, And their hearts, so that they cannot understand.
- 4. Matthew 13:14 "And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; 15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'
- 5. John 12:40 "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with their eyes, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them."
- 6. 2 Corinthians 3:14 But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ.
- 7. Romans 11:7 What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded.

II. But how do we reconcile this with the promises made to Abraham?

A. God's integrity and veracity are in question.

- 1. Can we trust God to keep His promises if He did not keep those He made to Abraham?
- 2. Now the bible states clearly and repeatedly that God's word never fails.
- 3. We will leave you to find those verses.

B. The promise was not to all the descendants of Abraham but to Isaac.

1. V-6 . . . For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, 7 nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "In Isaac your seed shall be called." 8 That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed. 9 For this is the word of promise: "At this time I will come and Sarah shall have a son."
2. How many children did Abraham father? 8
3. But the promise was not to any of them but Isaac.
4. Does that seem unfair?
  - a. Ishmael was the first born.
  - b. And he does not receive the honor due to that position.
5. Weren't the others just as much sons of Abraham as was Isaac?
6. It didn't make a difference, God had chosen only Isaac and not the others.
7. We have a non-biblical idea of what is fair.
  - a. What do we say when we seen one person in a group enjoying a special treat that they have brought for themselves.
  - b. Did you bring enough for everyone?
  - c. Why would they need to, because that is what we have been taught.
  - d. But just because God blesses one person He is not obligated to bless the others.
8. God chose Abraham, not either of his two brothers.
9. God chose Joseph to receive a double blessing a double inheritance among his brothers.
10. Romans 9:21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

C. The example given to Rebecca.

1. 10 And not only this, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one man, even by our father Isaac 11 (for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), 12 it was said to her, "The older shall serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated."
2. This example is more difficult that the others.
3. The children have the same father and mother.

4. But God chose Jacob and rejected Esau.
5. It was not because one was good and the other bad.
6. It was not because one was better than the other.
7. I have never had a problem as to who God rejected Esau, but rather why God chose Jacob.

So what have we seen in this passage?

To be a descendant of Abraham was not enough be a part of the real Israel.

Not all Israel is Israel.

This should be the ruination of this idea that if we baptize our children we make them part of the covenant of salvation.

A relationship with God is not based on birth, or blood or the will of man, but of God. John 1:13  
God has no grandchildren.

The Jews of Jesus' day prided themselves that they were Abraham's descendants.

But their relation to God was not based on that.

So it is today, everyone must have their own, biblical relation with Jesus Christ.

Remember, God sets out the rules and you cannot nullify them.

If you do not have that relationship today, is God calling you to come in repentance and faith to His Son Jesus Christ?

If He is then come now. Surrender your all to Him confessing your sins and trusting in Him alone.