

Romans 9:1-23 • The Potter and the clay

Everything God has created exists for his glory.

The ultimate purpose of creating and guiding and sustaining this world is the praise of the glory [of the grace] of God. The grace of God is most clearly seen in the crucifixion of his Son for undeserving sinners.

If our eternal happiness is rooted and dependent on our enjoyment and resulting praise of the glory of God then the most loving, most right thing (righteous thing) God can be about is the defense of His name, His value, His worth.

Without election, you compromise the central truth that we are saved by grace alone, not by works.

“Is there injustice on God’s part?”

“Why does he still find fault?

“For who can resist his will?”

2Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be **sin** who **knew no sin**, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1Peter 3:18 **For** Christ also suffered once **for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous**, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in **the** flesh but made alive in **the** spirit,

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Mark 15:29 And **those who passed by derided him...**

Mark 15:31 So also the chief priests with the scribes **mocked him to one another**, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself.

Mark 15:32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” **Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.**

Mark 15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**”

Isaiah 53:4 Surely **he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

Isaiah 53:5 But **he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.**

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:10 Yet **it was the will of the Lord to crush him;**

1Corinthians 15:22 For as in **Adam** all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Romans 3:23 for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God,

Acts 16:31 ...“**Believe** in the Lord Jesus, and you will be **saved**...

Romans 10:9 because, **if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

Romans 8:32 He who **did not spare his own Son** but **gave him up** for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Romans 8:33 **Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies.**

Romans 8:30 And those whom he **predestined** he also **called**, and those whom he **called** he also **justified**, and those whom he **justified** he also **glorified**.

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?**

Romans 8:38 For **I am sure** that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

Romans 8:39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, **will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Romans 9:1 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—

Romans 9:2 that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

Romans 9:3 For I could wish that I myself were **accursed and cut off from Christ** for the sake of my **brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.**

Romans 9:4 They are **Israelites**, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises.

Romans 9:5 To them belong the patriarchs, and **from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all**, blessed forever. Amen.

Romans 9:6 **But it is not as though the word of God has failed.** For **not all** who are descended from Israel **belong to Israel**,

Romans 9:7 and **not all are children of Abraham** because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be **named.**”

Romans 9:8 This means that **it is not the children of the flesh** who are the **children of God**, but the **children of the promise** are counted as offspring.

Romans 9:9 For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return, and **Sarah shall have a son.**”

Romans 9:10 And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived **children by one man**, our forefather Isaac,

Romans 9:11 **though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might stand, not because of works but because of him who calls—**

Romans 9:12 she was told, “The older will serve the younger.”

Romans 9:13 As it is written, “Jacob **I loved**, but Esau **I hated.**”

Romans 9:14 What shall we say then? **Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means!**

Romans 9:15 **For** (because) he says to Moses, “**I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.**”

Paul’s argument for why God is just in loving Jacob and hating Esau: because “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”

Romans 9:16 So then (therefore) it depends **not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.** (see 9:11)

Romans 9:17 For (because) the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very **purpose I** have raised you up, that **I might show my power** in you, and **that my name might be proclaimed** in all the earth.”

Romans 9:18 So then (therefore) **he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.**

Romans 9:19 You will say to me then, “**Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?**”

Romans 9:20 But **who are you, O man, to answer back to God?** Will what is **molded** say to its **molder**, “**Why have you made me like this?**”

Romans 9:21 **Has the potter no right over the clay**, to make out of the **same lump** one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? (See Isaiah) Romans 9:22 [What] if God, **desiring to show his wrath** and to **make known his power** (see 9:17), has **endured** (Exodus 9:15) with **much patience** vessels of **wrath prepared** for destruction,

Romans 9:23 **in order to make known the riches of his glory** for vessels of mercy, **which he has prepared beforehand for glory**—

“We little consider how much the sense of good is heightened by the sense of evil, both moral and natural. And as it is necessary that there should be evil, because the display of the glory of God could not but be imperfect and incomplete without it, so evil is necessary, in order to the highest happiness of the creature, and the completeness of that communication of God, for which he made the world; because the creature’s happiness consists in the knowledge of God, and sense of his love. And if the knowledge of him be imperfect, the happiness of the creature must be proportionably imperfect; and the happiness of the creature would be imperfect upon another account also; for, as we have said, the sense of good is comparatively dull and flat, without the knowledge of evil.”

Jonathan Edwards

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

Ephesians 1:4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love

Ephesians 1:5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Ephesians 1:6 **to the praise of his glorious grace**, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.