

ROMANS

SEEING WHAT IS RIGHT • THROUGH GOD'S EYES

Navigating
Romans 9

Question #1: What issue is Paul addressing in Romans 9?

Answer: *Paul is explaining why the Jewish people have rejected their Messiah and the salvation He offers.*



Question #2: Who were the children of promise?

Answer: *The children of promise were previously promised, miraculously provided and immensely privileged.*



Question #3: What is ‘God’s purpose in election’?

Answer: *God makes sovereign ‘choices’ not based on works or merit in order to demonstrate His glory and grace.*



Question #4: What does it mean that God hated Esau?

Answer: *God's chose to set his sovereign privilege upon Jacob over Esau, just as Jacob set his love upon Rachel over Leah (Genesis 29:30-31).*



Question #5: Is it unfair for God to show mercy to some and not others?

Answer: No, because:

- 1. All have sinned and can make no demands of God.*
- 2. Mercy is most glorious when it is given to the least deserving.*



Question #6: Is it unfair for God to harden a heart?

Answer: *No. God only hardens obstinate hearts as a form of just punishment against them.*



Question #7: Does Paul's potter and clay analogy mean that God creates rebellious people who are predestined for Hell?

Answer: *No, the potter and clay analogy follows Paul's teaching on God hardening hearts, just as a potter hardens the clay.*



Question #8: What does it mean to be prepared in advance for glory?

Answer: *The immediate context is speaking of God's choosing of Jacob (Israel) over Esau (gentiles) for privilege, but Paul is showing how that principle extends to those who have been saved in Christ.*



Why have the Jewish people rejected their Messiah and His Gospel?

True Israel is not ethnic Israel but spiritual Israel

Just like Ishmael and Esau were not part of Israel

In fact, God chose Jacob over Esau to show that His favor is by grace not works

Since God is Creator and Judge and we are sinners we have no argument with the way He deals with us

God also chooses to harden the hearts of some obstinate sinners

God has the right to show mercy to some and not to others if He chooses

Some people are justly under God's wrath, others have been called to mercy

Faith is the difference between Jews and Gentiles who receive God's mercy and those who face God's wrath



Three Mysteries:

1. How can God chose between people and not be a God of partiality?
2. How can God choose to harden the hearts of some obstinate sinners and show mercy to others?
3. How can salvation be a result of personal faith *and* predestination?



Three Questions:

1. How concerned am I for the lost?
2. How amazed am I by God's grace to a wretched sinner like me?
3. How much reverence do I have for the sovereign God of salvation?

