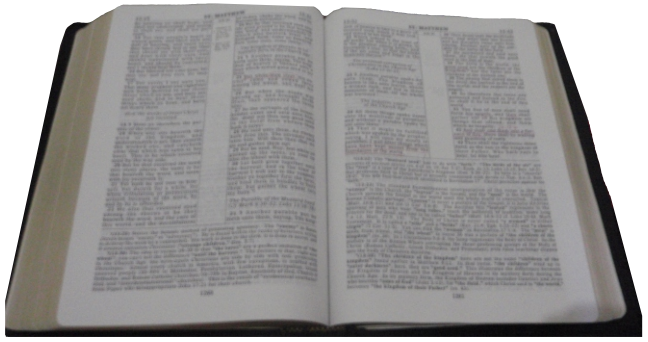
Flooding the World with the Gospel

ArkWork Publications



King James 1611

A Bible Believers Commentary on

Romans
9

Comparing spiritual things with spiritual

The entrance of thy words giveth light
Ps. 119:130

arkworkpublications.com

Romans 9- Israel's relationship to God- Past

- Summary

- The Jews were God's chosen nation to represent Him in the OT.

- Deu. 7:6

- Deu. 14:2

- The term "election" in **Rom. 9:11, 11:5, 7, 28** is referring to the nation of Israel

- Not to saved individuals who have received Jesus Christ as Saviour.

- While there were many thousands of Jews that believed

- Acts 21:20

- The vast majority of Jews today follow their leaders and reject Jesus Christ just as they did in Acts 4-7 when they rejected the witness of the Apostles and Stephen.

- In Paul's ministry, while some Jews believed on Jesus Christ, there were 3 times when the Jews overwhelmingly rejected Jesus Christ.

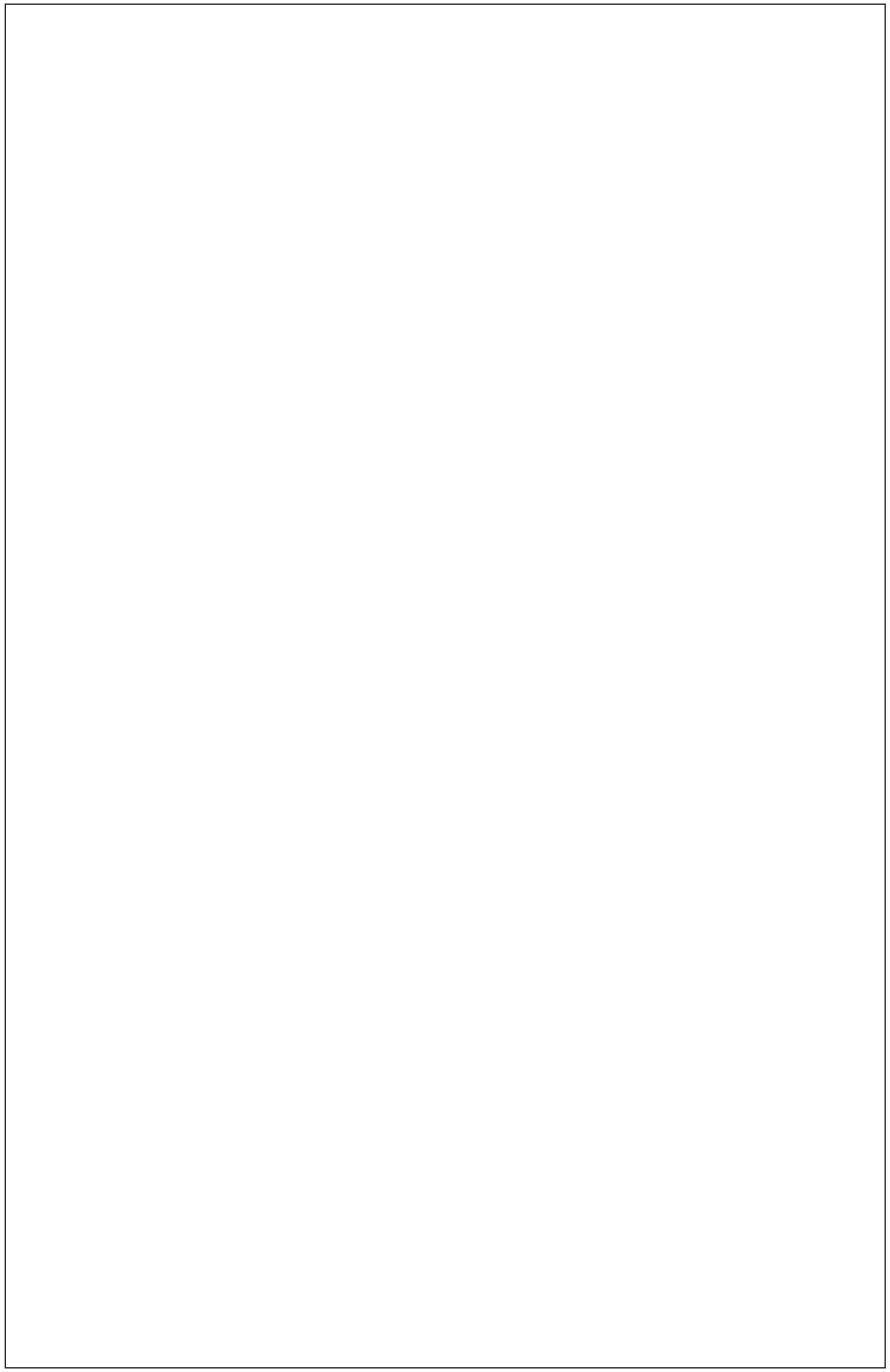
- Acts 13:46- Asia minor (Asia)

- Acts 18:6- Greece (Europe)

- Acts 28:23-28- Rome (World)

- Which these three places match **Acts 1:8**

- Paul was only doing what every Christian should do.



- Ever since then, individual Jews are occasionally saved

- Because of this the body of Christ is largely made up of Gentiles.

- The Church, the body of Christ has not taken the place of Israel in the Church age, or any other age.

- We are in a parenthetical dispensation where God has temporarily set Israel aside until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

- Rom. 11:25

- God is not dealing with Israel as a nation during the Church age.

- God is calling individual Jews to salvation by grace through faith as he does Gentiles.

- Don’t neglect the Jew in your daily soul winning.

- Most dispensations have some overlap and God is starting to deal with the Jews as a nation.

- Israel was again officially recognized as a nation in 1948

- Many Jews are going back to the Promised Land.

- God’s wrath is presently on the Jews and will continue on and culminate with the Great Tribulation.

- Outside of the Devil himself the Jews greatest enemy is God

- The Jews claimed responsibility for crucifying Jesus,

- God responded accordingly

- Lk. 23:13-25

- Acts 2:36

- Acts 4:10

- Mt. 27:24-25

- Physically- the Jews are under God's care and promises

- Spiritually- The Jews are under God's judgment, for rejecting Jesus Christ as God and their saviour.

- A nation is blessed when it blesses Israel and cursed when it curses Israel

- Gen. 12:1-3

- Num. 24:9

9:1- Believers have a Holy spirit filled conscience with spiritual truth now available to guide.

- A believer's conscience ought to be clear spiritually

- Acts 24:16

- A lost person has a defiled conscience through sins and the flesh.

- Tit. 1:15

- A renewed godly conscience is one result of getting saved, but still must be yielded to.

9:2- A godly conscience helps the believer to see things as God sees them.

- Believers at that time will not be ashamed or embarrassed of having trusted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

- **1Pet. 2:6-** It says that believers shall not be confounded meaning believers should not be put to shame or confused about salvation.

- The only way to have assurance of salvation is to trust Jesus alone and His righteousness

- Otherwise there is no assurance.

- But Israel was still attempting to obtain favor with God by self-righteousness and vain attempts at keeping the Law

- They failed and are still failing today

- Rom. 10:3-4

9:32a- Why couldn't the Jew attain to God's required righteousness?

- Because they attempt it by works of the Law and not by faith in Jesus Christ.

9:32b-33- The Jews (nationally) stumble over Jesus Christ and miss Him and salvation

- Jesus Christ identifies Himself as the Rock of offence

- Mt. 21:42

- Ps. 118:22

- Isa. 8:13-14- The LORD of host is the rock of offence

- Notice Jesus is a rock of offence and a stone of stumbling to the unbelieving nation of Israel.

- But to believers Jesus is a sanctuary

- 1Cor. 1:18-24

9:33- Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

- While we should not be ashamed to witness to others about Jesus Christ right now, this is referring to a time of future judgment.

- When the lost are cast into the Lake of Fire,

- Heaviness and continual sorrow in our hearts for the lost

- An ability to hear the screams of those who are now in hell

- Who are pleading for us to share the gospel with their families.

- Believers need a real burden for the lost

- Ps. 126:5-6

9:3- Paul's burden showed a Christ like love for the Jews

- Rom. 10:1

- Paul could wish (not did wish) to be accursed from Christ for the sake of the Jews,

- He would have if he could have, but its not possible.

- He knew that his being accursed would never save a single soul, It takes Jesus Blood.

- Paul's legitimate burden for the Jews caused him to argue with God.

- Acts 22:17-24

- Paul sinned by going to Jerusalem instead of going to the Gentiles.

- Paul is the Apostle to the Gentiles

- Rom. 11:13,

- Rom. 15:16

- Even good motives can lead to sin if you disobey God.

- Result- Paul lost 2 years of his ministry in Roman jail

9:4-5- Israel's great privileges- 8 of them.

- Rom. 3:1-2

1- Adoption- chosen as a nation by God

- Deu. 7:6, 14:2

2- Glory- pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night

- Ex. 13:21-22

3- Covenants-

- Gen. 12 & 15- Abrahamic

- Ex. 19-20- Mosaic

- 2Sam.7- Davidic

4- Mosaic Law

- Rom. 3:2

5- Service of God- Tabernacle, priesthood, instructions for being a peculiar people

6- Promises (of the OT)- Personal and national, both positive and negative

- Deu. 29

7- Fathers- Jewish patriarchs to look to as examples, including David

- Acts 2:29

- Mk. 13:20

- Practical application- people need to get saved immediately

- 2Cor. 6:2

- Jam. 4:14

- Job. 14:1-2

9:29- Isa. 1:9

9:29- Lord of Sabaoth is translated Lord of host in the OT

- Jam. 5:4

- Without the seed or spiritual remnant, destruction would have been certain.

- Just like in Sodom when 10 righteous men could not be found.

- Gen. 18:23-33

- This is referring to a Jewish spiritual remnant that will be saved.

9:30-31- Contrast of the salvation of the Gentiles with that of the Jews.

- Once the Gentiles got the gospel of Jesus Christ preached to them many believed when they under stood that salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ alone

- The Gentiles knew they had to receive by faith the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ and not their own righteousness.

- Hosea 1:9- As a result the Lord rejected the Northern kingdom as being his people

- Hosea 1:10-11- But God immediately predicts their restoration .

- Doctrinally, these verses are referring to the remnant of Jews that will be saved out of the Great Tribulation at the 2nd Advent, and will go into the Millennium.

9:26- Children of the living God

- The small remnant of Jews saved during the Church age

- God's present method of showing mercy in the Church age is for people- Jew or Gentile- to repent from their failure to believe on Jesus Christ and receive Him by faith alone.

9:27-28- Isa. 10:22-23

- Context Israel

- While there are many physical seeds of Israel, only a remnant of spiritual seed will be saved.

- There is a true spiritual remnant of Israel even in the Church age

- Jh. 1:11-12

9:28- Short work

- Is a reference to the Great Tribulation

- Cross reference is to the days of the Great Tribulation being shortened or else no flesh would be saved.

- Mt. 24:22

8- Jesus Christ- The Jewish Messiah and Saviour came in the flesh through the virgin Mary

- The # 8 in the Bible is the number of new beginnings.

- Had the Jews accepted Jesus as their Christ and Messiah they would have immediately received a new beginning as a nation.

- Since they rejected Jesus they are being judged by God, and will go through the Tribulation.

- Israel now must wait until the 2nd Advent to get a new beginning.

- In spite of God giving the Jews all the privileges, most Jews reject Jesus Christ.

- Rejecting these 8 privileges work to the detriment of the Jews as a nation because God's judgment falls on a nation which rejects God and salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

- The Jews failed in letting these 8 great privileges lead them as a nation to Jesus Christ.

- The Jews preferred a Roman dictator rather than Jesus Christ

- Jh. 19:15

- The problem is never with God; it's always the sinners response to God that is the problem.

9:5- One of the greatest verses In the Bible on the Deity of Jesus Christ.

- Jesus is not only "over all" but is also "God blessed forever"

- Ph. 2:9-11

- Col. 1:15-19

- Col. 2:9

- 1Tim. 3:16

9:6a- The word of God still has some positive effect on the Jews

- Even though most Jews reject Jesus as Light and the 8 privileges, there is still a remnant that gets saved.

9:6b-8- Contrast physical Jews with spiritual Jews

- Rom. 2:28-29

- Physical Jews are mere descendants or offspring of Abraham so is the seed of Ishmael.

- God rejected Ishmael from the promises given to the Jews

- Gal. 4:30-31

- Gen. 21:9-12

- Spiritual Jews are the spiritual seed of Abraham; saved Jesw constitute the true nation of Israel spiritually.

- While Isaac was not Abraham's only biological son, Isaac is the only son of Abraham that God would recognize

- Gen. 22:1-2

- Rom. 9:7

- Offspring means physical seed

- Acts 17:28-29

9:22- God is longsuffering

- Ps. 86:15

- Why does God put up with vessels of dishonour as long as he does?

- Eze. 33:11

- 2Pet. 3:9

- Rev. 22:17

- God withholds His wrath until after a person makes his choice about God

- Rom. 2:5-6

9:23-24- NT application- Whether Jew or Gentile a saved person is only a vessel of God's mercy and honour and able to enjoy the glory of God to the extent he is obedient to God and gets victory over sin.

- A believer may be a vessel unto dishonour through disobedience.

9:25-26- Hosea 2:23, 1:10

- Primary application is to the house of Israel

- Practical application- Believers are declared righteous when in fact we have no righteousness of our own.

- Hosea 1:2- Israel is called the wife and children of whoredoms and a land that had committed great whoredom, departing from the Lord.

- What determines whether a believer is a vessel unto dishonour is based on our obedience (or lack thereof) to God and our response to being tempted to sin.

- Jer. 19:1-13

- NT **practical** application- A believer can change his own status (not the Potter), therefore the context cannot be positional.

- 2Tim. 2:19-21

- 2Cor. 7:1

- How?

- Col. 3:1-4

9:22-24- What if, So what if? We need to let God be God!

- Remember **9:17** the context is not individual soul salvation, but about God making His power known and so His name could be declared throughout all the earth.

- A Calvinist uses supposition rather than a doctrinal statement to suppose in **9:22** that God predestinates some people to go to hell and in **9:23** some to go to heaven

- That is bad theology

- Every single vessel who has ever been born on this earth since the fall of Adam has been a vessel unto dishonour.

- Jh. 3:18, 36

- Ps. 51:5

- Rom. 3:10-12, 23

- Son's of God in the NT means spiritual seed

- Jh. 1:12

- Rom. 8:14

- A physical bastard is a baby born without benefit of a legal marriage.

- A spiritual bastard is a person who makes a spiritual claim to sonship of God without being legally adopted born again into God's family through faith in Jesus Christ

- Heb. 12:5-8

- Mohammed started a false religion of spiritual bastards when he claimed in the Koran that Abraham, Isaac, and Ishmael were all Muslims.

- That is was Ishmael not Isaac that was offered by Abraham and that Ishmael and Hagar the bond-woman were not cast out at all.

- Jh. 8:37-47- A clear contrast of Abraham's spiritual (physical versus spiritual seed)

9:7- Seed- is also a prophetic reference to Jesus Christ who is the great divider as to the physical seed versus spiritual seed of Abraham

- Gal. 3:7-8, 14, 26, 29

9:9- The promise that Sarah shall have a son

- Gen. 18:10

- All believers who have trusted Jesus Christ as their saviour by faith alone are the spiritual seed of Abraham

- They are also a child of God-

9:10-13- Another example of a son that God rejected, Esau

- Gen. 25:19-26

- The twin son of Isaac and Rebekah Esau, (the elder brother of Jacob) was rejected by God

- Esau's seed joined with the seed of Ishmael

- Gen. 28:9

- The sons of Keturah (which were the other rejected sons of Abraham) and the seed of Ham (which is the rejected son of Noah) form the Muslim nations.

- Gen. 28:9

- Gen. 25:1-6

- Gen. 10:6-20

- These nations have **no right** to the Promised Land that God gave Israel through his everlasting covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

- God foreknew which son would be the spiritual seed. but He didn't cause it.

- Jacob and Esau represent two nations and was prophetic of what God knew would happen.

- Esau represents the lost, physical seed, flesh and carnality

- Mal. 1:2-3

- Heb. 12:16-17

- Being born a sinner in the OT was not a legitimate excuse to not love God or disobey God.

- Nor is it a legitimate excuse for rejection Jesus Christ today in the church age NT.

- There are no eternal decrees, election, or damnation on individuals anywhere in this passage.

- God has given light - conscience, nature, scripture- to every man

- Jh. 1:9

- Tit. 2:11

9:21- Two kinds of vessels, honour and dishonour

- Again, the context is not about individual soul salvation but Israel's relationship to God.

- It was God's sovereign will to choose Israel to represent Him as his chosen people.

- God can change a vessel He is forming and make it another vessel

- Jer. 18:1-10

- Though God (who is the Potter) has perfect foreknowledge

- The Potter never pre-determines or predestinates the type of vessel we turn out to be

- That choice is ours to make.

- What determined how God is dealing with the Jews today is based completely on their rejection of Jesus Christ.

9:18- God's mercy or hardening always follows in response to the choices man makes.

- God is longsuffering, merciful, and patient with man

- Ex. 34:6

- God gives man many opportunities to respond properly

- Men seeking light will be given more light; men seeking darkness will be given more darkness.

- To harden your heart is just like a callousness that makes a person no longer sensitive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

- While there will be those who harden their hearts, don't be one of them.

- Mt. 18:7

9:19-20- Context- God showing His power and declaring his name throughout all the earth **9:17**

9:20- Even though all of mankind is under the curse of sin and death, nobody has the right to question God's mercy or hardening by asking "why has thou made me thus?"

9:14- There is no unrighteousness with God

- Man has the responsibility to respond properly before God

- In the OT to be right before God you had to love him and keep his commandments

- This is before the cross, after the cross in the NT a man must trust Jesus Christ by faith alone

- Jacob represents the spiritual seed and the spirit filled Christian.

9:11- Election has nothing to do with predestination or eternal decrees concerning individual salvation,

- Only that the "elder shall serve the younger"

- 9:12

- God chose the spiritual brother Jacob to be the line from which would come Jesus Christ based on the choices that He knew the two brothers would make.

9:14- God always does the right thing

- Ps. 119:142, 172

- Ps. 92:15

- There is absolutely no unrighteousness with God

- It is alway right to trust and obey and follow God.

- Even when things don't make sense to us as believers

- You can trust that God is doing the right thing at all times.

- Don't get mad at God or question that He always does the right thing.

9:15- This is a quote from the OT when nobody has yet been born again,

- Christ atonement at Calvary had not happened yet.

- Ex. 33:19

- The context here does not apply to NT salvation, so we must rightly divide or you come up with the false Calvinist doctrine.

- That by God's sovereign will and good pleasure, God chose to save some people and damn others to hell.

- That is wrong doctrine.

- In the OT, God set up a condition for his mercy- love me and keep my commandments

- Ex. 20:5-6- as part of the 2nd of the 10 commandments.

9:16- Context- How to receive God's mercy. Not a discussion of individual salvation.

- OT- a person could not force God to give him mercy by an exercise of his will, he needed to love God and keep His commandments to be right right relationship and safe with God.

- NT- A person receives God's mercy, forgiveness, righteousness and eternal salvation as a free gift by trusting Jesus Christ alone by faith.

- Acts 16:25-31

- A person must come on God's terms or else he will be damned.

9:17- God's purpose- Pharaoh was used by God to show His power and declare His name throughout all earth

- Ex. 9:16

- Ex. 11:3,9

- Was Pharaoh just a pawn with no chance to do right before God?

- No- God merely responded to Pharaoh in accordance with Pharaoh's choices.

- God's foreknowledge is always perfect but did not cause Pharaoh's choices.

- Ex. 3:17-19

- Pharaoh hardended his own heart, and in Ex. 5:6-18 made things even harder for the Jews.

- The original choice is made when Pharaoh exercises his own free will

- Ex. 5:1-2

- God does not harden Pharaoh's heart until after pharaoh defied God with his own stubborn will and then by the power Satan.

- Ex. 7:3, 10-13

- God gave Pharaoh 2 legitimate chances to obey God

- Ex. 5:1, 3

- Only then did God harden Pharaoh's heart and gave Pharaoh what he demanded initially;

- It was then too late for him to repent

- 2Cor. 6:2- NT application