

God Has Not Failed

Romans 9:6-13

Introduction

1. Israel had been prepared for centuries for the arrival of her Messiah. What had Israel not believed in Him?
2. There are two kinds of Jews (Rom. 2:28).

- I. God's choice is not based on natural generation (9:7-9).

The example of Isaac

- A. The elect of God are the spiritual seed of Abraham.

- B. Paul is talking about election to salvation not the selection of nations

Two reasons:

1. Vocabulary

- "the offspring of Abraham" – 4:13, 16, 18

- “reckoned as” – 2:26; 4:3, 5, 9, 22

- “the children of promise” – Gal. 4:28

- “call” – 8:30; 9:24-26

- “not by works” – 4:6; 9:32; 11:6

2. Context – Why there exists a spiritual Israel within physical Israel

- How is Paul using the Old Testament story of God’s sovereign selection of Isaac and Jacob?

II. God’s choice is not based on human merit (9:10-13).

The example of Jacob-

A. God made a distinction between Jacob and Esau before they were born.

Upon what was Jacob’s status based?

B. “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

In what sense did God love Jacob and hate Esau?

Has God failed to keep His promise to Israel because the nation rejected Jesus as their Messiah? No!

- 1. God has chosen some within Israel to be saved.**
- 2. God is free to choose those whom He will save. He does not do so on the basis of who they are, their will, or what they do.**
- 3. God has determined that by the human decision to believe His election is accomplished.**
- 4. The truth of God’s election undercuts all self-sufficiency, is the means by which we grow in our faith, elicits great praise from us to God, and encourages the preaching of the gospel.**