

# ROMANS

The righteousness of God  
revealed through the Messiah,  
King Jesus

# BIG QUESTIONS

## Behind the scenes...

Can we trust that God really is putting the world back together, because the world seems really messed up right now...

Has God kept His promises? Is God going to keep His promises He has been making, particularly to Israel?

Context, Context, Context

# Intro to Chapter 9

- Paul has made it clear that this was always supposed to be for everyone, not just for Israelites, but for the whole world
- Paul has made it clear that it was always about faith, not about doing details of the law, but about faith
- It has been about God living through us, moving in us, changing us from the inside out

# Intro to Chapter 9

## FUNCTION, NOT FATE

- Not about fate of an individual or a people group
- Not about who is saved or not saved
- Not about God not letting certain people be saved
- Not about God picking certain people and not others

# 3 sections to Chapter 9

1. Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
2. Exodus story (Pharoah)
3. Exile

## 3 questions to Chapter 9

1. Has God's Word failed? (covered last week)

2. Okay so I see what God is doing, but is that even fair? Is God just? (this week)

3. If God is doing it that way, how can God find fault with people? (this week)

V 14 “What then are we to say? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means!”



## V 15-16

For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” So it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy.

# Moses Story from Exodus 32-34

V 17-18 For the scripture says to Pharaoh, "I have raised you up for the very purpose of showing my power in you, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth." So then he has mercy on whomever he chooses, and he hardens the heart of whomever he chooses.

God's action upon Pharoah was part of the means,  
not only of rescuing Israel from slavery, but of  
declaring God's name to the world...

**The context for God's action is God's right and  
proper desire to put the world to rights**

**The context for God's action with Pharoah is that  
the glory of God be seen by all the nations**

## Verses 19-29

If this is the way it is, how can God hold me accountable for anything? It's not fair!

“Why does He still find fault? Who can resist His will?”

V 23 “and what if he has done so in order to make known the riches of his glory for the objects (vessels) of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory”

Vessel of mercy = a vessel through which God brings mercy to others, not a vessel that receives mercy

*V 24 including us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?*

Paul begins to make it clear that these vessels of mercy now include not only ethnic Israel, but Gentiles as well!

Gentiles are now included in God's "vessels of mercy" to the whole world!

## V 25-26 Hosea passages

Hosea 2:23 where the prophet declares to the Israelites that God will receive them back again after rejecting them. They were called 'not my people', but now they are to be called 'my people'. They were called 'not beloved', but now God will call them 'beloved'.

Hosea 1.10: in the place where you were called 'not my people', you will be called 'sons of the living God'.



*27 And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, “Though the number of the children of Israel were like the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved; 28 for the Lord will execute his sentence on the earth quickly and decisively.”29 And as Isaiah predicted,*

*“If the Lord of hosts had not left survivors to us, we would have fared like Sodom and been made like Gomorrah.”*

## CLOSING THOUGHTS

Verse 16: So it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy.

## CLOSING THOUGHTS

God's purposes will be fulfilled

Thank God that He has mercy in the  
midst of all of it