

Studies In Romans

(Romans 9:22-33)

1. What did Paul imply in posing his question as to why God was long-suffering with those who were fit to destruction?

That God was showing the riches of His glory and His mercy to those who deserved His wrath: *“What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory”* (Romans 9:22-23).

- **Romans 2:4-5.**
- God is long-suffering (**Numbers 14:18, Lamentations 3:22, Psalms 86:15, I Timothy 1:12-16, I Peter 3:20, and II Peter 3:9.**)
- Sometimes God being long-suffering is turned to destruction by men (**Ecclesiastes 8:11**).
- The intent of God, in being long-suffering, is to see men be saved (**II Peter 3:15**).
- Before prepared to glory... (**I Corinthians 2:9** and **I Thessalonians 5:8-9**).

2. Did the riches of the mercy of God extend only to the Jews?

No: *“(23) And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, (24) Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles”* (Romans 9:23-24)?

- **Acts 13:47-48, Romans 3:29-30, Romans 10:12, Galatians 3:26-29, Ephesians 2:11-17, and Colossians 3:10-11.**

3. What prophet is Paul referring to in Romans 9:25-26 (Hint: Osee = Hosea)?

Hosea (**Hosea 2:23** and **Hosea 1:9-10**): *“(25) As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. (26) And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God”* (Romans 9:25-26).

- **Romans 11:25-31** and **I Peter 2:5-10.**

4. Was all of Israel saved?

No, a remnant: *“Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved”* (Romans 9:27).

- Like Isaiah said (**Isaiah 10:20-22, Isaiah 11:16, Isaiah 37:31-32, and Isaiah 46:3**), there was a remnant saved (**Romans 11:1-6; cf. Luke 19:1-10**).

5. Was it God's intention to drag out or not finish the work He started in saving the lost?
No: *"For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth"* (**Romans 9:28**).

- He has appointed a time (**Acts 17:30-31**), but not on our timeline (**II Peter 3:1-14**).

6. What would have been the end of the Jews had God not left them a seed?
They would have been as Sodom and Gomorrha: *"And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha"* (**Romans 9:29**).

- **Isaiah 1:9**; cf. **Genesis 18:16-19:29**, **II Peter 2:6**, and **Jude 7**.

7. Whether Jews or Gentiles, how did righteousness come about?

Through faith rather than works of the Law: *"(30) What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. (31) But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. (32) Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; (33) As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed"* (**Romans 9:30-33**).

- "What shall WE say then?" For one, no one should challenge God at all [period] (**Romans 9:20**). *Discussed in last class.
- Eternal life cannot be earned, apart from God (**Ephesians 2:5-10** and **Philippians 3:9**; cf. **Luke 17:7-10**).
- Living by faith is the key (**Romans 1:17**, **Galatians 3:11**, and **Hebrews 10:38**).
- That is not say we are not expected to do works (**Luke 6:46**, **Luke 11:28**, **John 14:15**, **John 14:21-24**, and **James 2:14-26**).
- It is to say that those works, apart from faith, grace, and everything else; are worthless (**Romans 5:1**, **Romans 8:23-24**, **Hebrews 11:6**, etc.).
- The stumbling stone (**Isaiah 28:16**, **Matthew 21:33-46**, **I Peter 2:3-9**; cf. **Ephesians 2:20**).