

Studies In Romans

(Romans 9:1-13)

1. What did Paul say to establish his credibility?

That his conscience and the Holy Ghost bore witness of his speaking the truth: *"I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost"* (**Romans 9:1**).

- Paul knew the importance of speaking the truth (**Acts 26:25, Ephesians 4:15, Ephesians 4:25, and I Timothy 2:7**).
- Paul was not afraid to allow deity to be his witness (**Romans 1:9, II Corinthians 1:23, II Corinthians 11:31, II Corinthians 12:19, Galatians 1:20, Philippians 1:8, and I Timothy 5:21**).
- Paul also trusted his conscience was clear of any wrong doing (**Acts 24:16**; cf. **I Timothy 1:5 and I John 3:19-21**).
 - It should be noted that, a good conscience does not mean you're doing right. Remember, Paul "always" had a clear conscience (**Acts 23:1**), but certainly did NOT always do what was right (**I Corinthians 15:9, Galatians 1:13, and I Timothy 1:13-14**).

2. What did Paul have in his heart?

"That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart" (**Romans 9:2**).

- Any true teacher of truth will suffer when people are not obeying God (**Psalms 119:53, Psalms 119:136, Psalms 119:158, Jeremiah 13:17, Lamentations 3:48-49, Luke 19:41-42, and Philippians 3:18-19**).
- The reason, Paul wanted them to be saved (**Romans 10:1**).
- Notice, it was a "continual sorrow", not a passing thought. This is sincerity, which is a MUST to be a teacher of the truth (**II Corinthians 2:17**).

3. What extreme was Paul willing to go to for his brethren (Israelites)?

Be accursed: *"For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh"* (**Romans 9:3**).

- We should all be willing to die physically for our brethren (**John 15:12-14, Romans 16:1-4, Philippians 2:25-30, and I John 3:16**), but Paul went BEYOND that standard.
- Moses had this mindset too (**Exodus 32:25-35**).
- Just by accepting the role of being a teacher of the word of God, one takes the reality of greater judgment upon them (**James 3:1**). This is a risk one is willing to make when they sincerely care for souls and want others to be saved.
- Paul did not make this statement lightly. He fully understood what it meant to be lost (**II Corinthians 5:1-11**).

4. What great things occurred to and through the Israelites?

“(4) Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; (5) Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen” (Romans 9:4-5).

- Israel were the children of God (**Exodus 4:22** and **Hosea 11:1**).
- Israel was the glory of the Lord (**Isaiah 46:13**).
- Covenants (**Exodus 34:27**).
- The Law (**Psalms 149:19**; cf. **Romans 3:1-2**).
- Keepers of the service of God (**Exodus 12:25**).
- The promises [especially in connection with Christ] (**Luke 1:69-75** and **Acts 13:32-33**).
- The fathers (**Exodus 2:24**; cf. **Deuteronomy 10:15**).
- Christ came through the seed of the fathers (**Genesis 12:1-3**, **Genesis 22:18**, **Genesis 26:1-5**, **Romans 1:3**, and **Galatians 3:16**).
- Christ is over all (**Matthew 28:18**, **John 5:22-27**, **Acts 2:36**, **Acts 10:36**, **Ephesians 1:19-23**, and **Colossians 1:12-18**).
- Christ is God (**Matthew 1:23**, **John 1:1-5**, **John 10:30-33**, **John 20:26-29**, **Acts 20:28**, **I Timothy 3:16**, and **Titus 2:13**).

5. Were the blessings upon Israel only to the fleshly seed of Abraham?

No: *“(6) Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: (7) Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. (8) That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed” (Romans 9:6-8).*

- The word of God is never ineffective (**Isaiah 55:10-11**).
- The point, the Israel of God (**Galatians 6:16**) is not made up only of those whom are fleshly descendants of Jacob (**Romans 4:12**, **Galatians 3:7**, **Galatians 3:26-29**, and **Galatians 4:22-31**).

6. What did God prove by His prophesies concerning Jacob and Esau?

That it was His foreknowledge, by His desire, and not works that had been done by Isaac or Jacob that brought about the promises and fulfillments thereof: *“(10) And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (11) (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) (12) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. (13) As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated” (Romans 9:10-13).*

- It was not man’s doing, but God’s will that brought Christ for salvation (**Ephesians 1:9-11** and **II Thessalonians 2:13-14**; cf. **Isaiah 46:10-11**).
- God foretold Esau would serve Jacob (**Genesis 25:22-23**).