

## ROMANS 42 – PRAISE OF GOD'S USE OF JEW AND GENTILES

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ROMANS 11:25-36

### PROLOGUE: REJECTION – RECONCILIATION THEME APPLIES TO JEWS AND GENTILES

- PAUL SHOWS THE DEPTH OF HIS BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING IN APPLYING THE REJECTION – RECONCILIATION THEME TO GOD'S INTERACTION USING BOTH JEWS AND GENTILES, AGAIN SHOWING THEM AS EQUAL IN HIS EYES, THOUGH NOT IN EACH OTHER'S DUE TO SIN
  - GOD'S REJECTION OF MAN BROUGHT RECONCILIATION THAT RESULTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE JEWS (PURPOSE OF GENESIS: BEGINNINGS)
  - GOD'S REJECTION OF THE JEWS, DUE TO THEIR SIN, BROUGHT RECONCILIATION TO THE GENTILES
  - GOD'S COMING REJECTION OF BOTH LOST JEWS AND GENTILES WILL BRING RECONCILIATION TO THE JEWS FIRST BUT ALSO TO THE GENTILES (MT 25:31-46)

### PROLOGUE: PAUL REFERENCES TWO JEWISH SACRIFICES

- PAUL'S REFERENCE TO FIRST FRUITS AND HOLINESS OF THE ENTIRE BATCH REFERS TO TWO JEWISH SACRIFICES: UNLEAVENED BREAD – JEWS; PENTECOST – GENTILES
  - IF THE TWO LOVES OFFERED DURING THESE SACRIFICES WERE HOLY AS FIRST FRUITS, THEN THE BATCH OF DOUGH FROM WHICH THEY WERE MADE WAS ALSO HOLY, REFERENCING ALL WHO BELIEVED DURING EACH PERIOD (LAW; FIRST FRUITS)
  - UNLEAVENED BREAD, BARLEY, BEGAN WITH THE LAW REFERENCING REPENTANCE BEFORE PASSOVER AND THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST, WHICH WOULD PRIMARILY BE JEWS (MT 1:1-6)
  - PENTECOST, WHEAT WITH LEAVEN, WAS FULFILLED WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW COVENANT WITH THE CALLED OUT ONES – CHURCH, WHICH WOULD PRIMARILY BE GENTILES (AC 2:1-4)

## PROLOGUE: PRIDE LEADS TO REJECTION

- PRIDE IS THE OUTWARD MANIFESTATION OF COVETOUSNESS, THE GREAT IDOLATRY OF ALL AGES (100-10:20-22)
  - GENTILES WHO SEEK TO MAGNIFY THEIR POSITION OVER THAT OF JEWS SIMPLY ON THE BASIS OF CURRENT RELATIONSHIPS, SIN AGAINST GOD
  - SHOWS AN UNDERLYING JEALOUSY, COVETOUSNESS, OF THEIR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AS OPPOSED TO THE GENTILES
  - PAUL HAS BEEN CAREFUL TO SHOW THAT ALL ARE EQUAL BEFORE GOD, THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE SALVATION AND ONE BODY THOUGH ITS MANY MEMBERS HAVE DIFFERENT FUNCTIONS
  - GENTILES WHO CLAIM THEY HAVE REPLACED THE JEWS ARE LIKE A CANCER THAT MAGNIFIES ITSELF OVER THE NATURAL CELLS UNTIL THE BODY IS DESTROYED. GOD CUTS IT OUT AS WE DO

## EISEGETICAL ERROR OF HERMENEUTICS

- EISEGETICS, READING ONE'S MEANING **INTO** SCRIPTURE RATHER THAN EXEGETICS, GETTING GOD'S MEANING **OUT** OF SCRIPTURE IS A COMMON OCCURRENCE
  - NOWHERE IN SCRIPTURE DOES GOD SAY THAT HE WILL REPLACE OR REMOVE JEWS FROM HIS COVENANT; THIS INTERPRETATION MUST BE READ **INTO** SCRIPTURAL INTERPRETATION BY THOSE WHO WANT THEMSELVES TO REPLACE THE JEWS AS GOD'S FAVORED PEOPLE
  - GOD HAS A PLACE IN HIS PLAN FOR BOTH JEWS AND GENTILES WHICH PAUL EMPHASIZES HERE
  - THIS ALSO DENIGRATES SCRIPTURE FORCING ONE TO HAVE A LOW VIEW WHICH ELEVATES ONE'S OPINION OVER THE VERACITY OF GOD'S WORD(S)
  - THIS WAS THE BASIS FOR THE JEWS ORAL TRADITIONS WHICH LED THEM TO REJECT CHRIST; THE BASIS GENTILES USE JUSTIFYING THEIR ERROR-PRONE REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY PERSPECTIVE

## PARTIAL HARDENING ON ISRAEL {JEWS}

- PAUL SPEAKS FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE CONCERNING JEWS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
  - PAUL, AS SAUL, WAS A DEVOUT JEW DEPENDING THE FAITH ONLY TO DISCOVER HE WAS AT ODDS WITH GOD. PARTIAL HARDENING
  - HE WAS SAVED BY DIRECT INTERVENTION OF GOD SHOWING THAT SOME JEWS WILL ENTER GOD'S REST DURING THE DISPENSATION OF FIRST FRUITS
  - MAJORITY OF JEWS WILL REJECT GOD'S TRUTH REMAINING TRAPPED IN THEIR SELF-RIGHTEOUS WORKS
- THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE CASE SINCE CAIN AND ABEL. ONLY A REMNANT WILL BE SAVED; THE REST WILL BE CONDEMNED BY THE WORKS ON WHICH THEY RELY FOR JUSTIFICATION

## ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED

- THIS VERSE IS FREQUENTLY USED TO JUSTIFY UNIVERSALISM: FALSE DOCTRINE THAT GOD WILL SAVE EVERYONE EVENTUALLY
  - THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF HYPERLITERALISM – "ALL OF ISRAEL" TAKEN TO MEAN THAT ALL JEWS, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE, WILL BE SAVED
  - THIS TECHNIQUE REQUIRES THAT ALL OTHER SCRIPTURE ON THE ISSUE BE IGNORED; THIS SETS UP THE SITUATION FOR BIBLICAL CONTRADICTIONS AND REJECTION OF THE SCRIPTURES
  - PAUL HAS MADE CLEAR PREVIOUSLY THAT ALL ISRAEL REFERS **ONLY** TO SPIRITUAL ISRAEL, OR JEWS, THOSE WHOM GOD HAS PREDESTINED FOR SALVATION (RO 9:4-6, 11:2-7, EP 1:3-10)

## PAUL TEACHES HERMENEUTICS, AGAIN

- PAUL TEACHES US HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE OLD TESTAMENT IN RELATION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT WHICH IS CALLED HERMENEUTICS: HOW TO INTERPRET SCRIPTURE (26:29-30)
  - PAUL INTERPRETS, THEN APPLIES, ISAIAH'S WRITING WHICH ISAIAH PROBABLY COULD NOT DO (1PE 1:10-12)
  - CHRIST IS THE DELIVERER WHO WILL COME FROM ZION UPON HIS RETURN AFTER TOUCHING DOWN ON MOUNT OF OLIVES, SPLITTING IT OPEN THEN ENTERING MOUNT ZION, TEMPLE, VIA THE EASTERN GATE (22:16:18-19, 11:20-25, 28:13-1, 14-6, 8)
  - COVENANT OF THE SPIRIT IS THE NEW COVENANT THAT HAS COME FIRST TO THE GENTILES BUT WILL COME TO THE JEWS DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION PREPARING THEM TO RECEIVE MESSIAH AND ENTER HIS KINGDOM PREPARED FOR THEM: MILLENNIAL KINGDOM (21:12-15)

## COUNTERBALANCED RELATIONSHIPS

- PAUL DISCUSSES THAT JEWS AND GENTILES COUNTERBALANCED EACH OTHER SO GOD'S SALVATION MAY COME TO ALL WHO WERE CALLED
  - GOD REJECTED ALL MANKIND (GENTILES) AND WORKED THROUGH INDIVIDUALS TO PRODUCE HIS PEOPLE, JEWS, FROM THE LEAST OF ALL ETHNICITIES ON EARTH
  - THIS BROUGHT KNOWLEDGE OF GOD VIA THE JEWS, SOME OF WHOM ENJOYED SALVATION
  - THIS KNOWLEDGE PERCOLATED INTO THE VARIOUS CULTURES IN CONTACT WITH THE JEWS PREPARING THE WORLD FOR THE COMING MESSIAH (24:4-5)
  - AXIAL AGE WAS THIS KNOWLEDGE CHANGING GENTILE UNDERSTANDING BUT OFTEN RESULTING IN NEW FALSE FAITHS: ZOROASTRIANISM, CONFUCIANISM, BUDDHISM, ETC.

## PLAIN TEACHING – GREATEST CONFUSION

- PAUL CLEARLY STATES ONE OF THE FOUNDATIONAL AXIOMS OF GOD: HIS XARISMA AND CALLING ARE IRREVOCABLE, IMMUTABLE OR UNCHANGEABLE!
  - XARISMA – HOLY SPIRIT'S INFLUENCE BOTH PRE AND POST NEW COVENANT ARE WITHOUT ERROR
  - WHEN GOD CALLED THE HEBREWS TO BE HIS PEOPLE IT WAS ALREADY HIS PLAN THAT THEIR SIN WOULD BE PART OF HIS OVERALL PLAN TO SAVE A PEOPLE OUT OF EVERY CULTURE OR NATION
  - THEIR SINFULNESS WAS A PART OF THAT PLAN; TO SAY THAT GOD REJECTED THE JEWS FOR THEIR SIN IS TO SAY THAT GOD IS NOT OMNISCIENT; I.E., THAT HE IS NOT GOD!
  - CHRISTIANS HAVE PROVEN THEMSELVES NO BETTER AND OFTEN WORSE ON A GRANDER SCALE HISTORICALLY MEANING THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARING TO REPLACE US ALSO

## LAW OF DUALITY

- GOD, AND THUS PAUL, USE THE LAW OF DUALITY TO COMPARE AND CONTRAST EMPHASIZING CURRENT CONCEPT UNDER DISCUSSION
  - THIS CURRENT DISCUSSION WILL COMPLETE WHAT HE BEGAN IN CHAPTER ONE, PAUL USES DUALITY TO BOTH EMPHASIZE AND CONTRAST GOD'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH JEWS AND GENTILES
  - PAUL HAS LINKED BOTH GROUPS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HIS LOGICAL ARGUMENT CONCERNING SIN, REDEMPTION, WORKS AND SOVEREIGNTY OF CHRIST IN SALVATION
  - HE NOW CLOSES HIS ARGUMENT IN A DOXOLOGY OF PRAISE EMPHASIZING THAT GOD USED(S) BOTH JEWS AND GENTILES TO ACCOMPLISH SALVATION; PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

## ANOTHER FACET OF DUALITY

- GOD NOT ONLY USED BOTH GROUPS TO ASSURE HIS MESSAGE OF SALVATION CAME TO ALL PEOPLE; BOTH GROUPS WERE NECESSARY FOR HIS MESSAGE TO COME TO ALL PEOPLE
  - THERE WOULD BE NO MESSAGE WITHOUT THE JEWS FOR IT WAS THROUGH THE JEWS THAT CHRIST GAINED A LEGITIMATE LINEAGE BOTH TO HUMANITY BUT ALSO TO A KINGDOM THROUGH WHICH TO RULE THE EARTH (GOD HATES REBELLION IN ALL FORMS) (GE 13:17-21; DE 30:1-18; ISA 13:22; PSA 7)
  - NO FLESH CAN REVEL BEFORE GOD, WHICH IS WHAT THE PHYSICAL JEWS WANTED: TO RULE OVER ALL PEOPLES AS THEIR MASTERS, EVEN TODAY (1CO 1:26, 10:10-12)
  - GOD WOULD NOT LET SINFUL MAN, LINE OF CAIN, RULE THE EARTH; HE WOULD NOT LET HIS PEOPLE, JEW & GENTILE, SIN AFTER THE SAME MANNER; NOR WILL HE LET SATAN RULE THE EARTH (RE 20)

## PAUL TIES HIS CLOSING ARGUMENT TO HIS OPENING STATEMENT

- PAUL STARTED HIS LOGICAL ARGUMENT SHOWING BOTH JEW AND GENTILE WERE EQUAL
  - BOTH WERE EQUALLY GUILTY OF SIN BEFORE GOD: JEW BY THE LAW WHICH CONDEMNED THEM; GENTILES WITHOUT THE LAW BY THEIR OWN CONSCIENCE WHICH PRODUCED GUILT VIA SINFUL ACTIONS
  - BOTH WERE EQUALLY SAVED BY THE GRACE OF CHRIST WHOSE SACRIFICE AS SIN, FOR SIN, STRETCHED BACKWARD AND FORWARD IN TIME TO COVER ALL WHOM GOD HAS CALLED
  - BOTH WERE EQUALLY CONDEMNED AND EQUALLY GIVEN MERCY SO THAT ALL CREDIT GOES TO THE SOVEREIGN GOD AND SON AND NONE TO FLESHLY MANKIND; EVER
  - WITHOUT GOD NONE DESERVE LIFE PAST THIS PHYSICAL TRANSITORY EXISTENCE OF FLESHLY LIFE

## DOXOLOGY FROM ISAIAH

- SO CLEAR DOES PAUL SEE GOD'S HAND AT WORK THROUGHOUT MAN'S HISTORY THAT HE BREAKS OUT INTO A DOXOLOGY FROM ISAIAH AND THUS ALSO MAKES IT A CHRISTIAN DOXOLOGY, ONCE AGAIN TYING BOTH GROUPS TOGETHER INTO ONE UNIFIED PEOPLE
  - AS MAN BEGAN AS A UNIFIED WHOLE, BEFORE BEING SEPARATED BY SIN; SO ALSO WILL ALL SAVED PEOPLES AGAIN BE UNIFIED IN CHRIST THOUGH DIFFERENT IN FUNCTION THROUGHOUT ETERNITY
  - THIS IS BEYOND THE COMPREHENSION OR PLAN OF MAN; IT EMANATES ONLY FROM THE GRACE OF GOD VIA THE SACRIFICE OF THE SON (IS 40:13-14)
  - GOD'S MIND IS BEYOND OUR MINDS AND HIS PLAN OUR COMPREHENSION (IS 55:8-9)
  - WHAT GOD HAS PLAINLY TAUGHT WE ARE REQUIRED TO LEARN (JH 20:29)

## GOD OWES MAN NOTHING BUT GIVES MAN EVERYTHING

- SINFUL MAN DEMANDS THAT GOD OWES HIM, AND HER, EVERYTHING WHILE HE, OR SHE, OWES GOD NOTHING; THIS CONCEPT WAS WRITTEN IN THE FIRST BOOK PENNED (JOB 33:7, 41:11)
  - ELIJU JUSTLY CONDEMNS JOB AS A SINFUL MAN AND ASKS HIM WHAT HE, JOB, HAS GIVEN GOD REQUIRING GOD TO RETURN THE GIFT; I.E., MAKING GOD BEHOLDEN TO JOB
  - THIS IS REPEATED BY GOD IN HIS DISCUSSION DIRECTLY WITH JOB
  - THIS WAS ALSO THE CHARGE SATAN ACCUSED GOD OF WITH JOB; I.E., JOB WAS RELIGIOUS BECAUSE GOD GAVE JOB POWER, PRESTIGE AND RICHES – BOOK OF JOB IS GOD REFUTING THIS CHARGE THUS ENDING WITH THE SALVATION OF JOB DESPITE HIS SUFFERINGS, STRIPPED OF POWER, PRESTIGE AND RICHES TO INCLUDE FAMILY, EXCEPT THE WIFE (ONE FLESH) (JOB 2:23, JOB 24:8, 42:1-6)

## PAUL'S DOXOLOGY LIKE HEAVEN'S DOXOLOGY

- PAUL CLOSES HIS ARGUMENT WITH A STREAM OF PRAISE FOR THE GREATNESS, GLORY AND MERCY OF GOD WHO IS THE BEGINNING AND THE END OF ALL
  - GOD BEGAN ALL THINGS WITH CREATIONS: HEAVEN AND MATERIAL UNIVERSE
  - THERE WAS THE CREATION OF ANGELS AND THUS AN ABODE FOR ANGELS – HEAVEN
  - THEN THERE WAS THE PHYSICAL, MATERIAL CREATION WHICH BEGINS THE BIBLE, A BOOK CONCERNING THE SALVATION HISTORY OF MANKIND (SINCE THERE IS NO SALVATION FOR ANGELS THERE IS NO ANGELIC HISTORY IN GOD'S SALVATION PLAN EXCEPT AS IT TOUCHES MAN'S)
  - WE READ OF A SIMILAR DOXOLOGY IN HEAVEN BY ANGELS AND MEN (pt 4)

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## PAUL EXPLAINS WHY WE LIVE BY FAITH

- PAUL'S OPENING QUOTE FROM HABAKKUK, "RIGHTEOUS OR JUSTIFIED SHALL LIVE BY FAITH" IS FULLY EXPLAINED IN HIS CLOSING (HAB 2:1-4)
  - NO ONE HAS CONTRIBUTED ANYTHING TO ONE'S SALVATION; IN FACT, EACH OF US HAS CONTRIBUTED EVERYTHING TO OUR OWN ETERNAL DESTRUCTION
  - JUST AS OUR DESTRUCTION IS NOT OF GOD, HE LETS US GO OUR OWN WAY IF NOT ELECTED; SO ALSO SALVATION IS NOT OF US FOR WE WENT WILLINGLY OUR OWN WAY UNTIL SAVED
  - GOD PULLS FROM DESTRUCTION THOSE HE HAS DETERMINED TO SAVE; EACH PERSON CONSIGNS THEMSELVES TO ETERNAL TORMENT BASED ON THEIR WORKS (RE 20:11-15)
  - LOST HAVE NO ONE TO BLAME BUT THEMSELVES AND THE SAVED CAN TAKE NO CREDIT BUT JESUS

## SCRIPTURES BEST SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY TEXT

- NOWHERE ELSE IN SCRIPTURE IS THERE A BETTER SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO UNDERSTANDING THEOLOGY THAN PAUL'S DISCUSSION IN ROMANS (RO 1-11)
  - HE BEGINS IN FAITH AND THEN ENDS EXPLAINING THAT IT CAN ONLY BE BY FAITH
  - THIS THEOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK IS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO LIVE THE PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN LIFE; WITHOUT THIS FOUNDATION LIFE SIMPLY BECOMES A SET OF RULES, I.E., WORKS
  - THIS WAS, AND IS, THE ERROR OF THE JEWS AND NOW IS BECOME THE ERROR OF BOTH THOSE WHO MIMIC CHRISTIAN LIVING AND THE IMMATURE WHO HAVE NOT OR WILL NOT LEARN THE BIBLICAL FOUNDATION OF GOD'S GRACE
  - PAUL NOW TRANSITIONS INTO PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN LIVING BECAUSE HE HAS LAID THE FOUNDATION; ARE YOU LEARNING? OTHERWISE YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LIVE IT (RE 5:11-14)