

“Children Of The Promise”
Romans 9:6-13

Introduction:

1. Have You Ever Experienced:
 - Disappointment In Your Life?
 - If You’re Human - You Probably Have!
 - Because - Disappointment Comes:
 - In A Lot Of Different Ways!
 - And - One Of Those Ways Is:
 - Through Promises Made - That Become:
 - Promises Broken!
2. I Think This:
 - Might Have Been In The Apostle Paul’s Mind:
 - When He Began Writing Romans 9:
 - Which Is Where We Were Last Sunday:
 - And Which Is Where We Will Be Today!
 - So - Please Turn In Your Bibles There With Me!
 - Romans 9!
 - Because - In 9:1-5:
 - He Expresses Such Strong Grief:
 - Over The Plight Of Most Of His Fellow Jews:
 - Because Of Their Rejection Of:
 - All Of Their Privileges:
 - As The Chosen People Of God!
 - In 9:2-3 - He Wrote:
 - “That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. / For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh!”
 - Paul’s Heart Was Breaking For His People, To The Point That:
 - He “Could Wish” - If It Were Possible - For Himself To Be “Accursed From Christ” - Since:
 - Most Of Them Already Were “Accursed From Christ!”
 - Most Of Them Had Rejected:
 - Their Own Messiah - Jesus Christ!
 - As John Wrote In His Gospel:
 - John 1:11 - “He came unto his own, and his own received him not!”
3. But - What About:
 - All Of Those Promises:
 - That God Made To His People:
 - All Throughout The Old Testament?
 - Someone Might Ask!
 - After All:
 - In The List Of Their Privileges:
 - In 9:4-5 - One Of Them Specifically Mentions:
 - “The Promises!”
 - Not Just **One** Promise:
 - But **Many** Promises!
 - And So - If Their Rejection:
 - **Of** God - Leads To:
 - Their Rejection **By** God:
 - And Being “Accursed From Christ” - Then:
 - What About God’s Promises?
 - Have They Failed?
4. This Is The Question:
 - That Paul Wants To Address:
 - In The Verses We Come To This Morning!
 - *Did God Fail To Keep His Promises:*
 - *To Israel?*

- And - This Is An Important Question!
 - Not Just For:
 - The **Jewish** Brethren Of Paul!
 - But Also For:
 - The **Christian** Brethren Of Paul!
 - For The Church At Rome & For Us Today!

- Because - If God Failed:
 - To Keep His Promises To Israel:
 - Then - Can We Be Sure:
 - That God Will Keep His Promises:
 - To Us?

5. Well - To Begin Answering This Question:
 - We Come To 9:6 - Where Paul Writes:
 - “Not As Though The Word Of God Hath Taken None Effect!”
 - In Other Words - The Answer To The Question:
 - *Did God Forsake:*
 - *His Promises To His People:*
 - Is **Absolutely Not!**

- And - This Applies:
 - Not Just To The **Promises** Of God:
 - But - To The “Word & Words Of God”:
 - In Their Entirety!

- So - Even Though:
 - The People Of Israel - For The Most Part:
 - Failed To Believe In God’s Word & Promises To Them:
 - It Does Not Mean That:
 - God’s Word & Promises To Them:
 - Failed!

6. Instead - As We Find In:
 - Isaiah 55:11 - God Himself Says:
 - “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it!”
 - God’s Word & God’s Promises:
 - Will Never Fail!
 - And Then - In The Rest Of:
 - 9:6-13 - We Find Three Reasons Why:
 - Paul Knows This & We Can Know This!
 - Its Because Of This:
 - “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. / 9 For this [is] the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son. / 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!”
 - So - How Can We Know:
 - That God’s Promises To Israel:
 - Have Not Failed? Because:

* They Were Made To & They Belong To:

1. The True Sons Of God!

- As We Find In 9:6 - “For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel!”
 - Paul Points Out:
 - That There Is Another Israel:
 - Than Just The Nation Of Israel!
 - That Is - There Is A Spiritual Israel:

- To Whom God Both Made & Kept His Promises!

- Of Course - To Know Who / What Israel Is:

- We Have To Look Back To:

- The Beginning - In Genesis 32:24-28:

- Where God Met Jacob On His Way Back To The Land Of Canaan!

- “And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. / 25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob’s thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. / 26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. / 27 And he said unto him, What [is] thy name? And he said, Jacob. / 28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed!”

- God Met Jacob:

- And There - Jacob Was:

- Changed By God!

- 32:25 - “He Touched The Hollow Of His Thigh!”

- So Much So That:

- When Jacob Went To Leave This Place:

- Where - 32:30 - He Had “Seen God Face To Face” - 32:31 - “And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh!”

- But - This Physical Change:

- Wrought By God:

- Was Just A Sign:

- Of A Greater Change:

- In Jacob!

- An Inner Change!

- A Spiritual Change!

- A Change Brought About By God’s Blessing!

- Because - 32:29 - “He Blessed Him There!”

- God Blessed Jacob - And Then:

- To Further Mark That Blessing:

- Jacob Was:

- Named By God:

- With A New & Special Name!

- From “Jacob” - Which Meant:

- Supplanter And Deceiver!

- To “Israel” - Which Means:

- A Prince Of God!

- 32:28 - “For as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed!”

- And - With This Name:

- God Extended The Promises He Made:

- To His Fathers:

- Abraham & Isaac:

- To Him!

- It Was Going To Be Through:

- Jacob That God’s Great Nation:

- Would Be Formed!

- But - What Does Paul Say About Israel:

- Back In Romans 9?

- 9:6 - “For They Are Not All Israel, Which Are Of Israel!”

- That Is - There Is An Israel:

- Within Israel!

- And It Is To **That** Israel:

- God Makes & Keeps His Promises!

- So - The True Sons / Daughters Of God:

- His True Princes / Princesses:

- Are Not Those Who Can Just:

- Point Back To Jacob / Israel As Their Ancestor! **IE:** Ancestry!

- But Are Those Who - Like Jacob:
 - Have Been Changed By God:
 - And Named By God!
- And This Applies:
 - To Anyone - Whether Jew Or Gentile:
 - Male Or Female:
 - Bond Or Free!
- If You Are A:
 - True Son Or Daughter Of God:
 - Then You Are A Child Of The Promise!
 - And God's Word To You:
 - Has Not & Will Not Ever Fail!
 - So - Now - You Can Trust In God's Promise:
 - Of Belonging!
 - Because - The Words Of Isaiah 43:1:
 - To Not Apply To A National Israel:
 - But To The Spiritual Israel!
 - They Apply To You:
 - If You Have Been Touched & Changed By God:
 - Through Jesus Christ!
 - "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called [thee] by thy name; thou [art] mine!"
 - In Jesus - You Now Belong To The Lord!

* But Then - We Can Also See That God's Promises Belong To:

2. The True Seed From God!

- Which Is What We Find In 9:7-9:
 - "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. / 9 For this [is] the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son!"
 - So - Here's Another History Lesson:
 - About The Family Of Jacob!
 - And This Is To Show That God's Promises:
 - Have Always Been Made To Those Who Have:
 - A Spiritual Connection To Abraham, And Not Just A Natural, Physical Connection!
 - Paul Already Pointed This Out To Us:
 - Back In Chapter 4 - Where Abraham:
 - Is The Father Of All Who:
 - "Walk In The Steps Of That Faith Of Our Father Abraham!" (4:12)
 - Now - 9:7 - Could Also Be Translated:
 - "Not All Of Abraham's Children Are His Seed!"
 - And - I Think This Helps Us Understand Paul's Point Here Better!
 - Because - At The Time Isaac Was Born:
 - Abraham Had Two Sons!
- First - Ishmael - Is Considered To Be:
 - The Child Of The Flesh!
 - When God First Promised Abraham:
 - That He & Sarah Would Have A Son In Their Old Age:
 - Both He & Sarah Laughed:
 - In Disbelief!
 - So - Instead Of Waiting:
 - They Took Matters Into Their Own Hands!
 - Sarah Gave Her Handmaid, Hagar:
 - To Abraham - To Be His Second Wife!
 - And Through Here, Ishmael Was Born!
 - So - Ishmael Was Born:

- Not Just With The Natural Methods Of The Flesh:
 - But With The Mind Of The Flesh!
- And - Even Though:
 - Abraham Loved Ishmael - And:
 - God Even Blessed Ishmael:
 - He Was Not The Child God Had In Mind!
 - Because - 9:7b - "But, In Isaac Shall Thy Seed Be Called!" So Then:
- Second - Isaac - Is Considered To Be:
 - The Child Of The Promise!
 - As We Are Reminded In:
 - 9:9 - "For this [is] the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son!"
 - God Was Going To Keep:
 - His Promise To Abraham & Sarah:
 - According To His Purpose - And:
 - According To His Plan!
 - And - So He Did!
- So - With This In View:
 - Who Are The True Seed & Children Of God?
 - 9:8 - "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!"
 - So - What Was True:
 - About Isaac - Is Also True:
 - About You!
 - Your Relationship With God:
 - Doesn't Depend On:
 - Your Relationship With:
 - Any Other Person In This World!
 - Not Who You Are Married To!
 - Not Who Your Parents Are!
 - Not Who Is In Your Church!
 - Instead - Your Relationship With God:
 - Depends On Your Relationship:
 - To God's Promise!
 - And - What Does He Promise?
 - In John 1:11-12:
 - John Refers To Both:
 - The Children Of The Flesh & The Children Of The Promise:
 - "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. / But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name!"
 - When You Receive:
 - Jesus Christ - As Be Your Savior From Sin:
 - You Are Trusting In:
 - The True Seed Of God!
 - Not Isaac, But Jesus!
 - Remember - 9:7:
 - "**In** Isaac Shall Thy Seed Be Called!"
 - The True Seed:
 - Was Not Isaac!
 - The True Seed:
 - Was Jesus - And - Everyone Who Is United To Jesus By Faith!
 - Galatians 3:16 - "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ!"
- So - If You Are United To:
 - The True Seed Of God - By Faith In Jesus Christ:
 - Then You Are A Child Of The Promise!
 - And God's Word To You:

- Has Not & Will Not Ever Fail!
- So - Now - You Can Trust In God's Promise:
 - Of Blessing!
 - In Jesus - You Are Now Blessed By the Lord!

* But Then - Paul Wants Us To Also See That These Promises Belong To:

3. **The True Selection By God!**

- Which Is What We Find In 9:10-13:
 - "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!"
 - Here's Yet Another History Lesson!
 - About The Children Of Isaac & Rebecca:
 - Taking Us Full Circle Back To:
 - Jacob!
 - And So - Paul Wants To Show Us That:
 - A Person's Natural Or National Heritage:
 - Doesn't Matter In Their Relationship With God - But Instead:
 - Its Based On **God's** Change, **God's** Calling, And Ultimately, **God's** Own Choice!
 - In The Previous Example:
 - Between Isaac & Ishmael:
 - The Jew Could Argue:
 - Well - They Had Different Mothers!
 - But - In This Example:
 - Between Jacob & Esau:
 - The Only Difference Between Them:
 - Was A Spiritual One:
 - Not A Physical Or Natural One!
 - Because - As 9:10 Points Out:
 - Both Jacob & Esau Had:
 - The Same Mother - Rebecca!
 - The Same Father - Isaac!
 - And - Were Conceived At The Same Time!
 - They Were Twins!
 - As Far As A Family Heritage:
 - They Were The Same!
 - And Yet - They Were Different!
 - And - What Made The Difference? Rather - Who?
 - God!
 - It Was **God** - Who Chose:
 - The One Instead Of The Other!
 - It Was **God** - Who Chose:
 - Jacob Over Esau!
 - Though God Blessed Them Both:
 - God Chose To Bless:
 - **Jacob** With Spiritual, Heavenly Blessings - And:
 - **Esau** With Natural, Earthly Blessings!
 - And - Jacob's Blessings:
 - Were **Timeless** - But:
 - Esau's Blessings:
 - Were **Temporary & Temporal!**
 - And - It Was All Based On:
 - **God's** Choice:
 - Not **Theirs!**
 - So - In 9:11 - We Are Given:
 - The When Of God's Choice!

- 9:11a - "For The Children Being Not Yet Born, Neither Having Done Any Good Or Evil!"
 - This Means That:
 - There Was Absolutely No Human Reason:
 - For The Distinction God Made:
 - Between Jacob & Esau!
 - **IE**: Unlike Our Choices!
 - They Had, As Yet, Done Nothing:
 - Worthy Of Either Commendation:
 - Or Condemnation!
 - But - God Had Already Made His Choice Between Them!
 - We Are Also Given:
- The Why Of God's Choice:
 - 9:11b - "That The Purpose Of God According To Election Might Stand!"
 - Here We Have Two Words:
 - That Point To God's Own:
 - Secret Counsel & Sovereign Will!
 - His Purpose & His Election!
 - God Made His Choice:
 - For No Other Reason:
 - Than Himself!
 - So That - 9:11c - His Blessing Would Be:
 - "Not Of Works, But Of Him That Calleth!"
 - And - This Blessing Is Not Just About:
 - A National Blessing - But:
 - A Spiritual Blessing!
 - And That Leads Us To See:
 - The What Of God's Choice!
 - What Did God Choose Jacob For?
 - 9:12-13 - "It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. / As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated!"
 - God Chose Jacob:
 - To Lead & To Love!
 - When Paul Quotes From Malachi:
 - "Jacob Have I Loved, But Esau Have I Hated!"
 - He Uses Strong Words To Express:
 - His Selection Of One & His Rejection Of The Other!
 - And - What Was True Of Jacob:
 - Is Also True Of You:
 - If You Are A True Believer In Christ Today!
 - You Too Have Been:
 - Specially Selected & Chosen By God!
 - This Is What We Learned:
 - Back In 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose!"
 - And - God Chose You & Called You:
 - Not Because Of Anything:
 - **In** You Or **About** You!
 - But Because He Wanted To!

Conclusion:

1. And - If You Have Been Personally Selected By God:
 - To Be His Child - Then:
 - You Are A Child Of The Promise!
 - And God's Word To You:
 - Has Not & Will Not Ever Fail!
 - So - Now - You Can Trust In God's Promise:
 - Of Bonding And Everlasting Love!
 - So The Words Of:

- Jeremiah 31:3 - Do Not Apply:
 - Merely To A National People:
 - But To A Spiritual People!
 - They Apply To You:
 - If You Are Trusting In Christ Today!
 - “Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee!”
- 2. And So - ***Even In You:***
 - God’s Promises To The Old Testament Patriarchs:
 - Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob:
 - Are Fulfilled!
 - Because In Jesus:
 - “All The Promises Of God – Are Yea – And Amen!” (2 Corinthians 1:20)
- 3. So - Have God’s Promises Failed?
 - ***No!*** And:
 - They ***Never*** Will!
 - Because God’s Promises:
 - Were Are Not Primarily About:
 - Your Natural Or National Birth:
 - But About:
 - Your ***Spiritual*** Birth:
 - Into His Family!
 - To Receive His Promises:
 - You Must Be A Child Of The Promise!
 - And - You Are - If Galatians 3:26:
 - Is True About You!
 - “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus!”
 - If You Are A Child Of God:
 - You Are A Child Of His Promise:
 - And He Will Never Fail In His Promises:
 - To You!

- * Are You A Child Of The Promise?
- * Who / What Are You Relying On For Your Relationship With God?
- * Are You Now Living Like The Child Of God You Are?

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