

Hurting for the Lost!

Romans 9:1 I say the truth **in Christ**, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness **in the Holy Ghost**, 2 That I have **great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart**. 3 For I could wish that myself were **accursed from Christ** for my **brethren**, my **kinsmen** according to the flesh: 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.

1. A broken heart for his people 2 That I have **great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart**.
 - a. Paul is preaching the gospel of grace
 - b. He wants the Jews to know that he loves them and has not abandoned them
 - c. Even though he reaches out to the Gentiles he loves his people
 - d. There was no flippant attitude in Paul's heart

- e. His was no happy go lucky life lived to think only of what brought him blessings and pleasure
- f. If we understood what the Bible says about Heaven and Hell we would have far deeper feelings
 - i. He felt a great heaviness
 - ii. He felt it continually
 - iii. What do you feel when a loved one dies.
 - iv. You know the feeling we get at the funeral home or beside the bed of someone that is dying
 - v. Paul felt that all the time for his people
- g. What do you feel?
 - i. Do you hurt for others?
 - ii. Do you hurt for, worry about, pray for those in your family that do not know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour?
 - iii. Do you pray for those that are your enemies and hunger for their salvation? Maybe Muslims, foreigners, illegals, etc?
 - iv. Do you hurt for those that are deep in sin and have totally ruined their lives?

- v. Do you ever hurt for those that have such great knowledge and opportunities but never take advantage of them
 - h. This is what Paul felt for the Jews, his people even while he was going for the souls of the Gentiles
 - i. I know you give to missions. I know you care about the world but what do you care about those that live all around you?
2. A willingness to pay any price to get the gospel to them **3**
- For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:**
- a. Paul fully understood what it meant to say accursed from Christ
 - i. It would mean being separated from Christ
 - ii. It would mean going to Hell for all of eternity.
 - iii. It would mean losing his life to save theirs
 - b. Paul wanted to see them saved. He hurt for them and he wanted them to know that
 - c. Christ was his life. Everything about him revolved around Jesus and what He had done on the cross but Paul wanted

to see them saved enough to risk his own comfort,
happiness, security

d. What are we willing to risk

- i. If Heaven is real and Hell is real are you willing to risk your friendship to tell them about Jesus
- ii. Are you willing to forego some of your comfort and pleasures to put the Lord Jesus first in your life and conversation
- iii. Are you willing to sacrifice to make sure your family knows Jesus
- iv. Are you willing to put giving the gospel to them before business, pleasure, life itself

e. Who are we willing to risk it for

- i. So often we are fearful to tell our families about Jesus and eternal life
- ii. We will send the gospel over seas and ignore our own family, our friends, the ones that we care about the most
- iii. Has giving to missions become a substitute for feeling any responsibility for our own people, our own family, and where we live

f. When will we start

- i. Will you begin by praying for your friends by name
- ii. Will you invite them to hear the gospel preached
- iii. Will you today begin or do we wait until they are on their death bed and frantically call for a preacher

3. The Jews, his people had had all the advantages but wasted them **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;**

- a. Paul loved the Israelites. He was one and so was Jesus
- b. God had given the Israelites great blessings and benefits
- c. They were the people of God--adoption
- d. They had seen the glory of God like no others.
 - i. The cloud and pillar of fire in the wilderness
 - ii. They had seen His glory fill the temple
 - iii. They had seen Moses' face glow with His glory
- e. God had given great covenants and promises to Israel
 - i. He promised them land
 - ii. He promised them blessings
 - iii. He promised that they would be a blessing
 - iv. He promised that they would be a great nation

- f. The law was given to them and through them
- g. They gave us the Word of God, the promises of God
- h. They were the servants of God to take the gospel to the world
- i. It is impossible for anyone that loves God and His Word not to love Jewish people. We love everyone
 - i. We would never hate the Jewish people
 - ii. Christians have been cruel and shown hatred
 - iii. The Bible would teach us the opposite of that
- j. The Jewish problem is the same problem Cultural Christians have today **Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.**

- i. The Israelites had a zeal of God--they loved Him. They worked hard
- ii. Their zeal was not according to knowledge. They were doing what they knew from their parents, their culture, etc but it wasn't the right thing and it wasn't what God had said! **Philippians 3:3** For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh. **4** Though I might also have **confidence in the flesh**. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: **5 Circumcised** the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;* **6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.** **7** But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.
- iii. They didn't realize that God had another plan and He never intended for us to live up to the law
- iv. They struggled to be good enough not realizing that they could never be that good. They were only frustrating themselves

- v. In our pride sometimes we do not want to admit that we in ourselves are not good enough and can't get good enough
- vi. Jesus is the end of the law. He came. He fulfilled it. Then He died for us so that He could make us right

4. Jesus is God come in the flesh to save us **5 Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.**

- a. The greatest truth in the passage is Jesus
- b. What we couldn't do Jesus did
- c. Jesus is God in the flesh
- d. He is over all
- e. He is to be blessed above all
- f. Jesus is the answer for the Jewish person. Jesus is the answer for the Cultural Christian
- g. If you are here and frustrated you need to know that Jesus paid it all.