

Tuesday Evening Bible Study  
Series #7: Paul's Letter to the Romans  
Session #6: Chapters 9-10  
Tuesday, November 1, 2016

Outline

- I. The Inclusive Saving Power of the Gospel (continued) (1:18 – 11:36)
  - A. *The inclusion of the Gentiles on the basis of righteousness by faith (1:18 – 4:25)*
  - B. *The sure hope of salvation springing from righteousness by faith (5:1 – 8:39)*
  - C. **God's Election and Inclusion of Israel (9:1 – 11:36)**
    - i) **Israel's unbelief (9:1-5)**
      - “anathema” – here Paul may have imagined someone or something handed over to God as objects of divine wrath, destined to destruction—excluded from the salvation community and salvation itself.
      - Kindred “according to the flesh” refers to biological familial and ethnic relationships.
      - Here Paul is recounting the connection Israel has to its people. He's taking us somewhere.
    - ii) **The elective pattern of God's working (9:6-29)**
      - a) The elective pattern shown to the patriarchs (9:6-13)
        - “descendants” or “seed” of Abraham = Israelites
        - “children of the flesh” = Israelites, “children of the promise” includes non-Jews as well
        - Paul refers to divine purpose
      - b) The elective pattern shown in Moses and Pharaoh (9:14-18)
        - V. 18 has been included as part of the scriptural source for the doctrine of “double Predestination” so strongly embraced
      - c) God's freedom vs. human complaint (9:19-21)
        - Potter/clay motif is used as a contrast to the making and use of idols.
      - d) The elective pattern shown in the composition of a believing community (9:22-29)
        - Vessels of mercy vs. vessels of wrath
    - iii) **Israel's rejection of the Gospel (9:30 – 10:21)**
      - a) “Stumbling” before the righteousness of God (9:30 – 10:4)
        - Paul attributes Israel's failure at the Cross to misguided zeal for the law.
      - b) Scripture's witness to righteousness by faith (10:5-13)
        - Ultimately faith is the most important
      - c) Israel has heard but not responded to the Gospel (10:14-21)
        - Israel's mistake is that they refused to submit in faith to the righteousness of God.

Resources

B. Byrne, *Romans in Sacra Pagina Series*, D. J. Harrington, editor (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2007)

Notes from *The New Oxford Annotated Bible* (NRSV), 2010