

Romans 9

The Missed Messiah & God's Sovereignty



A sunset over a large body of water. The sky is filled with vibrant colors, transitioning from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon. The sun is visible as a small, glowing orb just above the horizon line, casting a shimmering reflection on the water's surface. The water is dark blue with gentle ripples, and the overall scene is peaceful and serene.

God's Election and Man's Choice

"From the Word of God I gather that damnation is all of man, from top to bottom, and salvation is all of grace, from first to last. He that perishes chooses to perish; but he that is saved is saved because God has chosen to save him.."

Charles Spurgeon

Opening Questions

- Has the purpose of the setting apart of the Jews been in vain?
- Is there any purpose of God that can be thwarted?
- What's the relationship between God's election and man's choice?

1 I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, 2 that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, 4 who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; 5 of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.

Q: (v1-2) Paul breaks the previous sections by focusing on Israel. He starts this section with an oath. What is it for?

- Paul is swearing with God as his witness that he has great sorrow and grief

Q: (v3) What did Paul wish he could do?

- Be cursed, or Anathema, completely cut off from God in exchange for his fellow Jew's salvation

Q: (v4) Why did this particularly bother Paul?

- The Israelites were the apple of God's eye. They were given all the knowledge of God
- They should have been the first to acknowledge Jesus as Messiah

Q: (v5) What does Paul, and the Holy Spirit, declare about the deity of Christ?

- This is one of the clearest declarations in the Bible that Jesus is God

6 But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, 7 nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "In Isaac your seed shall be called." 8 That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed. 9 For this is the word of promise: "At this time I will come and Sarah shall have a son."

10 And not only this, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one man, even by our father Isaac 11 (for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), 12 it was said to her, "The older shall serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated."

Q: (v6) Who is Israel but not all of Israel?

- Paul's point is that being born of Abraham isn't enough
- He then point at Abraham had two children, one representing the child of promise (Isaac) and one a child of flesh (Ishmael)
- It was God's choice to make the line of Isaac the promised line

Q: (v11) When was the determination of the Jacob's election?

- From before he was born

Q: (v13) What does it mean God hated Esau in light of Esau's blessed life ?

- It could refer inheriting the covenant relationship (Mal 1:2-3)

Q: (v13) Did Esau reject God?

- [Esau's unwillingness](#)

Q: (v13) How was Esau's life?

- It was blessed

14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! 15 For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion." 16 So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. 17 For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." 18 Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

19 You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?" 20 But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?" 21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, 23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, 24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

25 As He says also in Hosea:

"I will call them My people, who were not My people,
And her beloved, who was not beloved."

26 "And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them,
'You are not My people,'

There they shall be called sons of the living God."

27 Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel:

"Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea,
The remnant will be saved.

28 For He will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness,
Because the LORD will make a short work upon the earth."

29 And as Isaiah said before:

"Unless the LORD of Sabaoth had left us a seed,
We would have become like Sodom,
And we would have been made like Gomorrah."

Q: (v14) Is God wrong for not choosing all?

- No, everything God created, including us, has a specific purpose determined before we were born

Q: (v16) According to the Holy Spirit, who's choice is salvation?

- This verse makes it clear, we cannot do enough works to merit salvation
- God shows mercy on those He wills

Q: (v17) How was Pharaoh's heart hardened and why?

- God removed the restraints on Pharaoh, allowing his heart to harden
- To enable the demonstration of God's character, power and plan

Q: (v18) Does God show mercy to all?

- No, only those according to his plan

Q: Does God wish all to be saved?

- Yes, John 3:16

[Faith](#)

Q: (v19) Does this change the responsibility of man?

- No, we are still responsible for our choice

Q: (v24-28) Has God called only the Jews?

- No, all nations included in the promise

Q: (v29) What is God didn't intervene in the world?

- All would turn to their evil ways, just like in the time of Noah

30 What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; 31 but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. 32 Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone. 33 As it is written:

“Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense,

And whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.”

Q: (v33) What do stone (and corner stone) references in the OT refer to?

- The Messiah (Is 28:16, 8:14)

Q: (v32) Why did God lay the stumbling stone, Jesus, in front of the Jews?

- To accomplish His will in the Jews



God's Election and Man's Choice

A woman once said to Mr. Spurgeon, 'I cannot understand why God should say that He hated Esau.' 'That,' Spurgeon replied, 'is not my difficulty, madam. My trouble is to understand how God could love Jacob.'

Charles Spurgeon

Next Up

Romans 10 – Israel &
The Gospel



Hebrews 12:14-17 - Unwilling to Repent

14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; 16 lest there be any fornicator or profane person like **Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright.** 17 **For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears**



Faith – A Gift From God

John 6:44 - “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him”

John 6:65 - “No one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father”

Acts 3:16 - “the faith which comes through Him.”

Philippians 1:29- “To you it has been granted for Christ’s sake . . . to believe in Him.”

2 Peter 1:1 - “those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours” ().

Romans 3:11 - “There is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God”



Romans Theme

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." – Rom 1:16-17



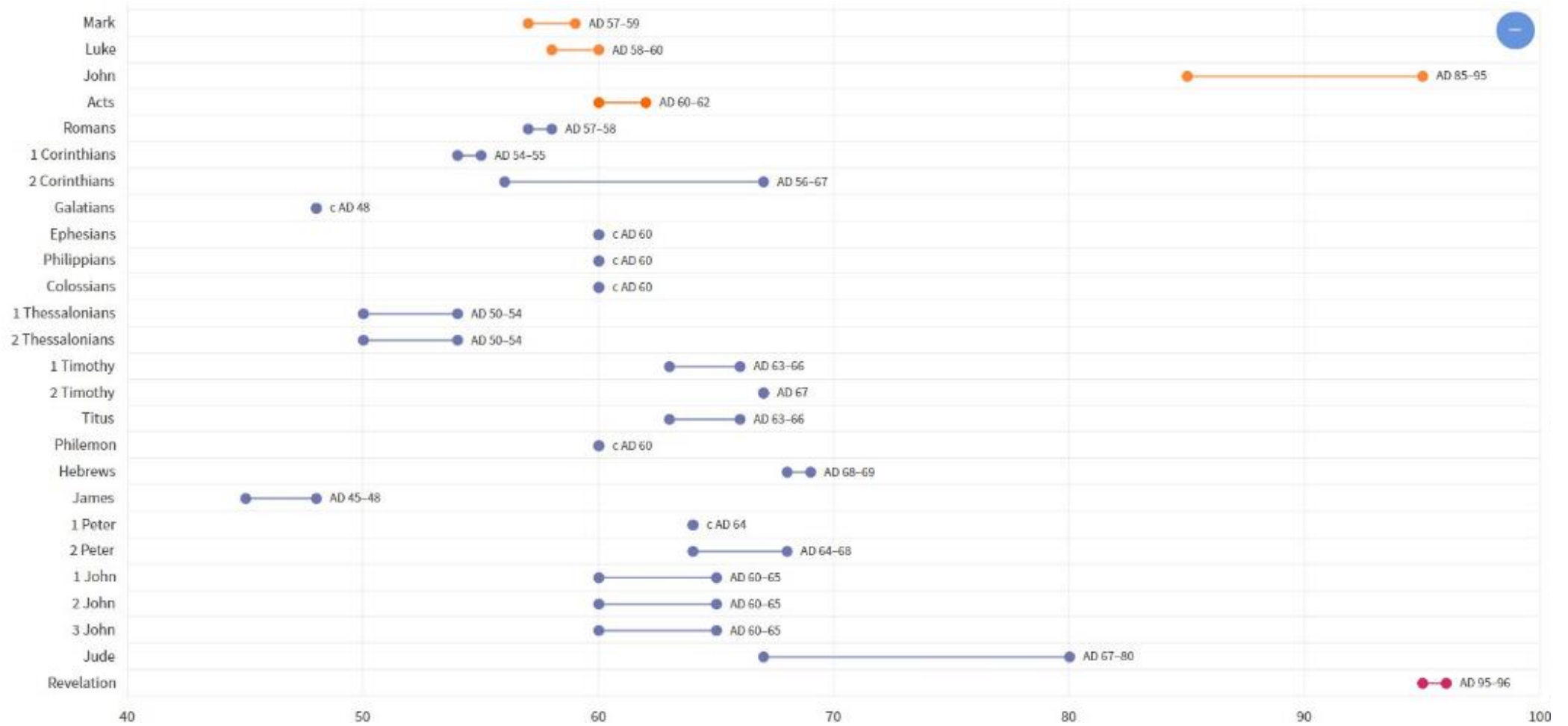
Co-writer – Apostle Paul

- Born as Saul in Tarsus (on the southern coast of modern-day Turkey). Likely borne about the same time as Jesus.
- Schooled as a Pharisee under the Jerusalem religious famous Gamaliel.
- Became a traveling missionary and preacher for the early church; renamed Paul.
- Worked as an artisan who made tents – maybe subcomponents
- Was imprisoned multiple times by the Roman authorities for his religious agitation.
- Believed to have co-written 6 letters to the churches.
- Died sometime between AD 62–64; Paul, believed to be in Rome.



- **AD 33 Damascus – Direct conversion**
- **AD 33-36 Arabia – Receiving direct revelation from the Lord (Gal 1)**
- **3 missionary journeys to Asia minor**
- **AD 56 Wrote Romans on 3rd journey in Corinth**





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- Romans ties to other books of the bible

