

Glen Park Gospel Church  
**Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group Notes**

Rev Chris Trinham

Studies in Romans Series 5

No 21

## What Christians Should Know About Jews

Scripture Reading: Romans 9, 10 & 11.

These three chapters are a parenthesis. This means they are a diversion set into the main theme of Romans with additional information. A full title perhaps should be 'What God Wants Gentile Christians to Know About Jews That Jews Also Need to Know About Themselves.' The passage although complete in its self, is integral to the whole. It is also an extended comment on Romans 8:29&30, in particular God's sovereign right in light of Jewish history, their current religious attitude and His revealed intention. More simply it is covered in two verses: "I Paul, one 'in Christ', a Jewish Christian, 'am speaking to you who are Gentiles'" (Romans 9:1 & 11:13).

### First, Let's Learn What God Has Done For The Jew 9:1-5.

Look at the blessings that God gave to His ancient people Israel, things which still set them apart from other nations. The: adoption as sons; God called them His own Exodus 4:22, Hosea 11:1. glory; that is, God dwelling amid His people Exodus 24:15, 1 Kings 8:10&11. covenants; not the ten command-ments but the agreements that God made with Abraham and his descendants. See for example Genesis 15:1-21. service of God; not the temple ritual alone but God's plan that Israel would be a nation of priests, bringing the nations to God.

And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. Exodus 19:6

promises; by His promises we receive blessing from God. See 2 Peter 1:4, 1 Kings 8:56.

fathers; the ancestry with its rich heritage, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. Prophet, priest and king brought a substance and meaning that continues to today, even after 2,000 years of diaspora.

### What God Has Done for the Jew, He Has Done for You Too.

Christian! Do you not have like blessings, only more so? Take stock of the spiritual

blessings He has heaped upon you:

God's sons;

For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" Romans 8:15.

glory;

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1&2.

a new covenant:

But now He (Jesus) has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises. Hebrews 8:6.

a better hope;

... the Law made nothing perfect, and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. Hebrews 7:19.

service;

For we are labourers together with God: 1 Corinthians 3:9.

better promises;

For this reason *it is* by faith, in order that *it may be* in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, Romans 4:16.

the fathers;

The Father's we share in common for of them Jesus Christ came See His genealogies in Matthew 1 and Luke 3:23-28. Do we not serve great

David's greater Son?

God has in Christ, created a people of faith who in many ways inherit blessings that He intended to bring to the world through Israel, the nation:

But you are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for *god's* own possession", so that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvellous light; for you once were "not a people", but now you are "the people of God"; you had "not received mercy", but now you have "received mercy". 1 Peter 2:9&10.

Have you not stepped into all this by faith in Christ, the Messiah. Think of this. Do not look sideways at the Jew for you too have received a trust for which you are responsible.

### The Sorrow of Separation

Viewing the plight of his Jewish countrymen when they turned their back upon God's Christ He tells how he feels.

First, I have great sorrow, *mega* which means a pain intense in degree. Pain is the word John used when he wrote, "When a woman is in labour, she has pain." Here it means the heavy sorrow or grief of bereavement. It will pass.

Second, unceasing or constant grief. Grief is stronger. It is unremitting anguish.

Accursed and separated. Paul would be willing to take their punishment, their separation if only that would restore them in Christ. Separation implied from the context. Romans 8:39. The word he used is 'away from' or 'out of'. He was willing to bear so great a cost. There is a parallel with Moses:

"But now, if You will, forgive their sin and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!" The LORD said to Moses, "Whoever sinned against me I will blot him out of my book." Exodus 32:32&33.

### So Has God's Plan Failed?

Paul could hear his original readers, living in the strongly Jewish context of the early Church, saying, "If God is Sovereign what has gone wrong with His called people, the Jews? Has He abandoned the Jews?"

He begins his answer in Romans 9:6, But it is not as though the word of God failed.

God's choice of Israel in calling

Abraham,

and making Him to be a people was not

to play favourites. He chose Israel to bring His blessing to the world by faith in Him through the One who is His Anointed, that is, Jesus the Christ. He has chosen Israel as an instrument in His hands.

Many nations have tried to annihilate the Jewish people, and the ethnocide continues, even in this present day. God has not forsaken His nation Israel. He is working out His plan and His purpose. He will prevail.

James speaking said, "Simeon has related how God first concerned Himself about taking from among the Gentiles a people for His name. With this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written, 'After these things I will return, and I will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen, and I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, so that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by My name,' says the Lord, who makes these things known from long ago. Acts 15:14-18. Quoting Amos 9:11, Jeremiah 12:15.

As this series of studies proceed we will see from the Old and New Testaments how this is so.

Bible quotations in this study are from the NASB.

# Welcome

## Glen Park Gospel Church

Lower Road, Eltham North

Sundays 10.30 am

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