

God's Perfect Promises
It's Always Been Salvation by Grace
Blueprint for Breakthrough Series – Part 17
Romans 9:1-33
June 11-12, 2026

Introduction

- This world is so religious.
- Even in Christianity there is so many rabbit holes to get lost in.
- Sometimes we need to get back to the basics - most important.
- So, let's set our compass at the get-go...

Faith in Christ is what MATTERS MOST

- Last Week – **Eternal Security** as **children of God**, **protected** (neither **you nor anyone else can ruin God's plan to save you**).
- This Week
 - Important things to know
 - Jew & Gentile Church combo clash - Gentile Church blending with the Jewish Church has been rocky.
 - Paul's bad reputation
 - Explaining God's Plan for Israel – now and in the future.
 - Modern view – Replacement Theory
 - Historic view - Continuing Theory
 - A Story of 2 Sons – Isaac & Ishmael. National and True.
 - The plan with National Israel – fulfilling promises and leading them to revival.
 - The implications of this theory and how we view Israel today
 - National Israel today is a form of national Israel of the Bible
 - God's defending Israel
 - Blessing Israel – mandate to bless Israel and to pray for them. we want revival.
 - Disappointment with people – we don't turn a blind eye to the choices that Israel's government makes. It's like extended family.
 - Palestinian conflict – complex. Like Samaritans.

Lesson

- Beyond Broken
 - Paul shares his heart toward his Israelite brothers
 - *Romans 9:1-3 – "I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh."*
 - I am not lying – set the record straight.

- that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. –the whole situation that the Jews were/are in is breaking his heart.
 - Do we hurt for the unsaved?
 - Cut off for his brothers and sisters.– Like Moses (Ex 32) Golden Calf.
- Beyond Blessed
 - The historically blessed status of Israel
 - *Romans 9:4-5 – “They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.”*
 - What Israelites got - 8 benefits.
 - 1.) adoption - being made ‘children of God’ with a special relationship to God as a people group.
 - 2.) the glory - presence of God
 - 3.) the covenants - Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic.
 - 4.) the law - Moses on Mt. Sinai.
 - 5.) the worship - The ritual systems.
 - 6.) the promises – Promised Land, Messiah, blessing.
 - 7.) The patriarchs – the examples of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, etc.
 - 8.) the Christ - THROUGH their line, INTO their people group to save the world.
 - who is God over all
- Beyond Blood
 - God’s plan for Israel revealed
 - *Romans 9:6-13 – “But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷ and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but [Gen 21:12] “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸ This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁹ For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁰ And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, ¹¹ though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— ¹² she was told, [Gen 25:23] “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³ As it is written, [Mal 1:2-3] “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”*
 - But it is not as though the word of God has failed – never breaks a promise.
 - For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, - Just because you are lineage of Abraham doesn’t make you Abraham’s child. **Abraham**

was a man of faith and only people of faith are truly his children. Physical lineage is cool and brought a bunch of blessings and benefits (mentioned above), but it doesn't save you.

- The faith component – Looking back it's easy to see that it started with faith with Abraham so why wouldn't we assume that it was continued by faith? the promises of blessing messed things up in people's minds.
- Only the line through Isaac – Quoting Gen 21:12 - The Jews never assumed that Ishmaelites were the promised and chosen people although they were direct descendants of Abraham. Therefore being 'born of Abraham' is obviously not a salvation guarantee.
- Not children of flesh but children of promise
- Example 2 – Rebekah had Jacob/Esau – in the womb the older will serve the younger. in response to the argument that the Jews had the salvation blessing rather than the Ishmaelites, even though they shared Abraham as a forefather, due to different moms (Sarai v. Hagar), Paul mentions another case where one line was blessed but another line was not: Jacob and Esau.
 - Before they did anything good or bad – key = not contingent on their deeds. They weren't born yet, nor done anything. God can determine His will apart from the decisions of man – making the argument that grace has always a factor in the plans of God and not just works-based-outcomes.
 - What's Paul's point? – that when we get to the Gentile Christian church it was not about Gentiles doing better things than the Jews or having more righteous acts, but the grace of God to include them.
 - As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated. – Malachi 1:2-3
 - Explaining love/hate – 'actively blessing (or using for blessing) vs. not actively blessing or using for a special blessing'. It does not mean hate. God loved Esau and actually blessed him a TON. It means 'chosen, not chosen for this special role'.
- Beyond Fair
 - The fairness of God's plans debated
 - Romans 9:14-21 – *"What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses, [Ex 33:19] "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." ¹⁶ So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. ¹⁷ For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, [Ex 9:16] "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." ¹⁸ So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills. ¹⁹ You will say to me then, "Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?" ²⁰ But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, [Isa 29:16] "Why have you made me like this?" ²¹ Has the potter no right over the*

clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?"

- Is God Unfair? - if God's making calls before anyone can do anything doesn't that pull all responsibility and accountability out of the mix on those people?
- God told Moses that mercy and compassion are His choices.— He is in charge and that no one and no standard forces His hand. He can do what he wants to do and needs to do.
- Pharaoh Example – Raised up and hardened for a bigger plan. 10 plagues on Egypt until they relented.
- How can we be blamed? **who are you, O man, to answer back to God?**
- Potter and Clay – Creator and purpose
- So, is it Predestination or Free Will? – **How do we get saved?** The answer is yes.
 - Discussing possible support for Predestination-Predetermination – I **do not believe in predetermination**, but the argument is **God is sovereign and does not allow creatures to run the show in anything significant and certainly not in their eternal destiny**. Mankind doesn't bring anything to the table of themselves. Getting saved is really just mankind becoming aware of the next step in their pre-ordained plan.
 - The argument is part biblical and part reason-based - Almighty vs. a sinful broken being with God's glory at stake.
 - The reason I don't believe in it – **accountability** is ruined. **Punishment** is due to choice. **Whosoever** is the antithesis of 'only the few who were predetermined'. **love that is chosen** involved.
 - My view on predestination vs. free-will – **It's similar to the way God worked with Israel**. There was always going to be a true Israel. Whether someone chose to engage with faith was up to the individual.
 - Everyone has a chance to get saved
 - Is it really free will? – **ant farm**,
- Beyond Israel
 - God's inclusive plan of the Gentiles
 - *Romans 9:22-26 – "What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, ²³ in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— ²⁴ even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles? ²⁵ As indeed he says in Hosea [2:23], "Those who were not my people I will call 'my people,' and her who was not beloved I will call 'beloved.' " ²⁶ "And in the very place where it was said to them, [Hos 1:10] 'You are not my people,' there they will be called 'sons of the living God.' "*

- What if God, made bad people for a good purpose? – Like Satan and **demons**, right? They are **responsible** for the wrath of God coming on them. **YES, God can make a system like that**. But in my opinion, He didn't.
- God calls unexpected people and includes those others cast out – **Quotes Hosea about the Northern Jews to point out that He did so with the Gentiles too.**
 - Sidenote: Gentile were always a part of the plan
- Beyond Blood
 - A case for remnant Israel
 - **Romans 9:27-29 – “And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: [Isa 10:22-23] “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, ²⁸ for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.” ²⁹ And as Isaiah predicted [1:9], “If the Lord of hosts had not left us offspring, we would have been like Sodom and become like Gomorrah.”**
 - Isaiah said not all Israel would be saved - God said clearly in the Old Testament, **long ago, that although Israel would be numerous, only a remnant would be saved.**
 - It was all grace – heading toward Sodom and Gomorrah.
 - What has God promised and does He violate those? - **What did God promise to Israel? blessings. land Messiah but they don't promise personal salvation to every Jew.**
 - The New Covenant promise
- Beyond Works
 - The necessity of faith for salvation
 - **Romans 9:30-33 – “What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; ³¹ but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³² Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³ as it is written [Isa 28:16; 8:14], “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”**
 - Gentiles got it without the law and trying for righteousness.
 - Jews tried for righteousness and didn't.
 - Why? Faith - **It was always about FAITH. The law and rules and regulations were about trying to get people to have their hearts aligned through faith to God.** It was never about doing things to earn salvation, that was impossible. **But doing things and keeping their hearts to themselves was easier. Religion** was easier than submission, relationship, messy intimacy, surrender. **The Jews followed the law as a means by**

which to earn their salvation rather than as a means of strengthening their inner faith, and pleasing God with their works. They didn't use the law for what it was for.

- Final Stumble was Jesus

Conclusion

- In the end it's about relationship and faith – apply For us