



The Book of Romans

Tuesday Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

September 15: Romans 9:1-13

Are the Israelites God's People?

Lutherans sometimes get called “replacement theologians.” Do we believe that the Church replaces Israel?

Israelite: An Old Testament believer in Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Hebrew: Used by Israelites in the Old Testament to identify themselves to non-Israelites.

Jew: This term means either an ethnicity or an adherent to “Judaism,” which is not the Christ-centered faith of the Old Testament.

Israeli: A citizen of the 1948 state of Israel, which is not the same Israel of the Old Testament. Israelis are sometimes called “secular Jews.”

Does God have a separate plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles?

“They are what Israel and Judah had been, in God’s intention, of old. The Gospel creates a new people of God to live before Him. The Gospel of God is now in these last days doing, in ultimate fullness and universality, what God’s promise did for Israel of old.”

– Martin Franzmann

Romans 9:1-3

Why is Paul so emphatic and emotional here?

What is he willing to do for the sake of national Israel?

“He begins by testifying to his deep solidarity with the people among whom God had allowed him to be born. Should he not love the people whom God had loved and chosen? He goes so far as to say that he would have himself condemned if it would save his compatriots.” – Bo Giertz

Romans 9:4-5

What blessings did God give to ancient Israel? What should have been the outcome?

Was Jesus an Israelite? What important confession does Paul make about Christ here?

Colossians 2:9 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.

Romans 9:6-7

Did God's Word fail regarding the Israelites?

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

What distinction does Paul make between Israel and Israel?

Romans 9:8-9

What makes one a child of God? Where does Paul turn to illustrate his point?

Galatians 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Romans 9:10-12

When does Rebecca hear that Jacob will be the child of promise?

Genesis 25:23 And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger."

What does Paul mean by *election* in this context?

Now, let whoever is concerned about God's revealed will act on the order that St. Paul has described in the Epistle to the Romans. Paul first directs people to repentance [Romans 1–2], to knowledge of sins [Romans 3:1–20], to faith in Christ [Romans 3:21–5:21], to divine obedience [Romans 6–8]. Then he speaks of the mystery of God's eternal election [Romans 9–11]. This doctrine is useful and consolatory to the person who proceeds in this way. - *The Formula of Concord*

Romans 9:13

What does it mean for God to hate Esau?

Luke 14:26 If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

September 29 or October 13?: Prepared for Glory: Romans 9:14-29