



The Book of Romans

Tuesday Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

October 13: Romans 9:14-29

Prepared for Glory?

What is the context for Paul's discussion of election?

In what ways do the Scriptures teach about election?

Romans 11:28 As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers.

Romans 9:14

What has been Paul's argument so far?

What objection to his argument does Paul address?

Deuteronomy 32:4 The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.

Romans 9:15-16

What example does Paul use now to nuance this conversation?

Exodus 33:18-20 Moses said, "Please show me your glory." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live."

What overarching principle does Paul suggest?

Romans 9:17-18

How does God relate to Pharaoh?

Exodus 7:13 Still Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

Is the subject here divine election unto salvation or damnation?

“He does not say that God has from eternity determined to harden the hearts of some. He does say that Pharaoh was ‘raised up’ by God, given his power and his place in history, in order to fulfill God’s purposes. Paul is, for the time being, dwelling with strict exclusiveness on the sovereignty of God; that more can be said and must be said about the responsibility of man when God deals with him, that is clear from what has gone before in the previous chapters and from what follows in ch. 10.” – Martin Franzmann

Romans 9:19-21

What is the second anticipated objection?

What illustration does he use?

Jeremiah 18:6 O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

Romans 9:22-24

Who are the vessels of wrath? Who are the vessels of destruction?

What does the word “prepared” mean in this context?

Romans 9:25-26

How does Paul further explain his point from the Prophets?

Hosea 1:10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

Romans 9:27-29

Is eternal salvation guaranteed to every individual Israelite? Are the Gentiles excluded from God’s mercy?

Isaiah 10:22-23 For though your people Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will return. Destruction is decreed, overflowing with righteousness. For the Lord GOD of hosts will make a full end, as decreed, in the midst of all the earth.