

The Epistle of Paul to the
ROMANS

The Election of Israel (9:1–11:36)





ELECTION

- Since the elect of God include Jews and gentiles, Paul addresses the place of ethnic Israel (and non-Israel) in the purpose of God (Rom 9:1–33).
 - Q. What causes Paul sorrow and grief? (vv. 1–5)**
 - Q. How does the word of God prove reliable, even if most Israelites reject it? (vv. 6–29; cf. Num 23:19)**
 - Q. Why have the gentiles—and not Israel—received the righteousness of God? (vv. 30–33)**
- We need to cultivate the same kind of love for lost people that Paul possessed. (How do we do so?)



SALVATION

- The Jews reject knowledge of the righteousness of God, but apart from the gospel of the faithfulness of Christ, salvation is impossible (Rom 10:1–21).
- Q. What does Paul desire for Israel? In what way(s) does the Scripture confirm the gospel? How are Jews (and gentiles) saved? (vv. 1–15; cf. 1:16)**
- Q. Why does Israel have no excuse for their failure to obtain righteousness? (10:16–21)**
- Prepare notes on Rom 10 for use in teaching others the plan of salvation. Pray for opportunities!



REMNANT

- God has not rejected every Israelite, for the disobedience of Israel and the obedience of the rest provokes the other to salvation (Rom 11:1–36).
- Q. What proof does Paul provide to show that God has not totally rejected ethnic Israel? (vv. 1–6)**
- Q. How does the hardening of Jews incite the gentiles to salvation, and how does the obedience of gentiles incite the Jews? (vv. 7–32)**
- Q. Why does Paul end with a “hymn”? (vv. 33–36)**
- Praise God for the wisdom and knowledge of God!

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The Conduct of Believers (12:1–15:13)





SACRIFICE

- Divine mercy motivates Christians to offer body and mind to God, which leads to love and service toward others—even enemies (Rom 12:1–13:14).
- Q. Why must Christians offer their bodies to God and renew their minds? (12:1–2)**
- Q. How should Christians think, and why? (vv. 3–5)**
- Q. Based on what precedes, what does Paul imply that Christians should do with the gifts that God has (or will) give them? (vv. 6–8; cf. 1:11)**
- Q. How should Christians treat each other? (12:9–13)**



SACRIFICE

- Divine mercy motivates Christians to offer body and mind to God, which leads to love and service toward others—even enemies (Rom 12:1–13:14).
 - Q. How should Christians treat their enemies, and why? (12:14–21; cf. Matt 5:38–48; 1 Pet 3:8–17)**
 - Q. What has God appointed to avenge the innocent, and what is the duty of the Christian toward it? (Rom 13:1–7; cf. Titus 3:1–8; 1 Pet 2:13–17)**
 - Q. What must Christians always do? (Rom 13:8–14)**
- Make a sacrifice for God or others this week.



ACCEPTANCE

- Christians must accept those whom God has accepted and not pass judgment (Rom 14:1–15:13).
- Q. Why are the Christians in Rome despising and judging one another, and what principles ought to dictate their interaction? (14:1–12)**
- Q. What should the strong do to promote peace with the weak, and what is the ultimate goal of congregational unity and peace? (14:13–15:13)**
- Q. How can we apply Rom 14:1–15:13 today? How should we NOT apply it? (cf. 13:11–14; 16:17–20)**

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Conclusion (15:14–16:27)





PLANS

- Though he does not doubt their devotion, Paul—as the apostle to the gentiles—is compelled to write to and visit the Romans (Rom 15:14–33).
- Q. To whom does Paul intend to preach, and how does his preaching make him like a priest to God? (vv. 14–21; cf. 12:1)**
- Q. What has prevented Paul from visiting Rome, and what are his plans for the future? (15:22–29)**
- Q. Why does Paul request prayers? (vv. 30–33)**
- Make intentional, expectant, and prayerful plans.



GREETINGS

- Paul greets Christians in Rome because of his love for them and to establish credibility with the Romans who do not know him (Rom 16:1–24).
- Q. Why should Christians affectionately greet one another? Why do we sometimes fail to do so? (vv. 1–16, 21–24; cf. 1 Pet 5:14)**
- Q. Whom should Christians not welcome, and why? (Rom 16:17–20; cf. Gen 3:13–15)**
- Before/after the next assembly, give a warm greeting to someone(s) whom you do not know well.



DOXOLOGY

- Paul concludes Romans with a doxology (“word of praise”) for the Father because of the wise and glorious plan to save all people (Rom 16:25–27).
Q. Why is the doxology in Rom 16:25–27 a fitting close to the epistle of Romans?
- Adapt the words of the doxology in Rom 16:25–27 into a personal prayer of praise. (For instance, “Father, you establish me according to the gospel. ... I praise you through Jesus Christ because you are the only wise God. ... Amen.”)

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