

Evening Worship / February 26 2023
"Israel's Wasted Privileges!" Romans 9:1-6

I. *Paul's thwarted heart desire for Israel, his countrymen, according to the flesh –*

9 I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, ²that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, Romans 9:1–3 (NKJV)

1. *The triple confirmation of Paul's heart for Israel – Romans 9:1*

A. *Truth in Christ*

B. *Not lying*

C. *His conscience / in the Holy Spirit*

2. *Why does Paul need such a triple confirmation?*

A. *Because he would communicate great sorrow and continued grief – Romans 9:2, such sorrow is possible even for one who was rejoicing in the Lord –*

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Philippians 4:4 (NKJV)

B. *Even for one who had God's love poured / and God's Spirit –*

⁵Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. Romans 5:5 (NKJV)

C. *In fact, I would say that the joy and sorrow were CONNECTED, the joy Paul had because of God's fulfilled promises, and the Gift of the Spirit, He knew his brothers, many just like he WAS they were MISSING what he had!*

3. *Wishing to be accused, if he could save them, he himself would choose Hell, this is extreme! This is self-sacrificial love ...*

II. *Great privileges you would think would lead to, and result in salvation:*

⁴who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; ⁵of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen. Romans 9:4–5 (NKJV)

1. *Who are Israelites - ⁴who are Israelites,*

A. *This is according to the flesh, they were connected to Jacob, but according to Covenant Promises, not only Jacob, but converted Jacob, Israel!*

(A1) Jacob – meant conniver, supplanter, manipulator / (A2) Israel – meant POWER with God and referred to a man of prayer and faith!

B. *They had the privilege of this connection! Similar to someone who would have the privilege of a Christian home & heritage!*

2. *The adoption - to whom pertain the adoption,*

A. *God claimed them as His own and fought for them against Pharaoh & Egypt –*

²² Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD: “Israel is My son, My firstborn.” ²³ So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn.” ’ ” Exodus 4:22–23 (NKJV)

B. *His ways with them were the ways of a loving Father –*

¹¹ “When Israel was a child, I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son. ² As they called them, So they went from them; They sacrificed to the Baals, And burned incense to carved images. ³ “I taught Ephraim to walk, Taking them by their arms; But they did not know that I healed them. ⁴ I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped *and* fed them. Hosea 11:1–4 (NKJV)

C. *Forgiveness of a Father was part of their privilege –*

¹³ As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him. ¹⁴ For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. Psalm 103:13–14 (NKJV)

* *If they would ‘fear’ Him –*

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever. Psalm 111:10 (NKJV)

3. *The glory - the glory,*

⁹ Then Moses spoke to Aaron, “Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, ‘Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your complaints.’ ” ¹⁰ Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. Exodus 16:9–10 (NKJV)

“Whining was Israel’s besetting sin.” Ryken & Hughes Commentary on Exodus

A. *קָבוֹד Kabod / glory, weight, it is the one Hebrew word that makes me feel good about being FAT!*

B. *Oh, to be fat spiritually –*

² Wherefore do ye spend money for *that which is* not bread? And your labour for *that which* satisfieth not? Harken diligently unto me, and eat ye *that which is* good, And let your soul delight itself in fatness. Isaiah 55:2 (KJV 1900)

C. *God is not a lightweight, He is HEAVY, in the best sense of the Word. Spiritually Heavy!*

D. *God’s glory in relation to Israel was the cloud / fire that stayed with them, led them, according to Exodus 16:9-10 above fed them -*

²¹ And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. ²² He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night *from* before the people. Exodus 13:21–22 (NKJV)

SHEKINAH A manifestation of God’s personal presence which took the form of a cloud. J.D. Berry

4. *The Covenants – the covenants / and the promises;*

With Abraham, with Moses, with David ... promises, precious promises

A. *Circumcision – a bloody sign performed on Abraham’s reproductive organ, representing the fact that Abraham’s Seed – Jesus Christ would bleed and die for our sin –*

¹³ Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “*Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree*”), ¹⁴ that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Galatians 3:13–14 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though *it is* only a man’s covenant, yet *if it is* confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. ¹⁶ Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “*And to your Seed,*” who is Christ. Galatians 3:15–16 (NKJV)

²⁹ And if you *are* Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:29 (NKJV)

B. *The Passover ----*

⁷ Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 1 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

C. *The Promise to David of a House –*

¹³ He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 2 Samuel 7:13–14 (NKJV)

Yes, this refers to Solomon, he commits iniquity, but also Jesus, His throne is forever ...

¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Ephesians 2:19–22 (NKJV)

D. *These all pointed to Jesus Christ –*

¹⁹ For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. ²⁰ For all the promises of God in Him *are* Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 2 Corinthians 1:19–20 (NKJV)

5. *The Fathers - ⁵ of whom are the fathers*

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, the sons of Jacob –

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “*In Isaac your seed shall be called,*” ¹⁹ concluding that God was able to raise *him* up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. ²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, *leaning* on the top of his staff. Hebrews 11:17–21 (NKJV)

6. Of whom Christ came - and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, *the eternally blessed God. Amen.*

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. Romans 1:16 (NKJV)

Jesus came to the Jews, FIRST, treated them as special, treated them as privileged ... but how did they respond to / handle that privilege?

III. *The QUESTION answered in Romans 9 – 11, what about the Jews? Why are so MANY of them – LOST????*

⁶ But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, Romans 9:6 (NKJV)

1. *Those who are LOST, were NOT truly Israel!*
 - A. *Yes, according to the flesh they were born Israelites*
 - B. *Yes, they had the benefit of great privileges*
 - C. *But they rebelled, they crucified Jesus Christ –*

¹⁴ Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” ¹⁵ But they cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” ¹⁶ Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. Then they took Jesus and led Him away. John 19:14–16 (NKJV)

WHY?

1. *They were not all Israel – the same sunshine and rain that makes flowers grow, makes manure STINK!*
2. *They were not chosen!*
3. *They did not believe*
 - A. *They were not changed by God’s Word*
 - B. *They rebelled against God’s grace and patience*
 - C. *They were blinded*

4. *But all was according to God’s purpose, also to show grace to believing Gentiles ...*

⁶ Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ” Isaiah 49:6 (NKJV)

5. *To demonstrate that it is all grace, not works –*

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is the gift of God,* ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8–10 (NKJV)

Arnold A. Brevick