

~ INTRO ~

THE LAST TIME WE WERE TOGETHER...

- We opened up (Rom. 9) and Paul's heart for ministry.
 - We quickly discovered several truths to help us...
 - Remain in Our Calling... as Christians.

WE UNLOCKED...

- The practical benefits to walk this out:
 - 1) Don't abandon your faith (John 16:1)
 - 2) Finish the work God gives you (John 17:4)
 - 3) Remain teachable (Heb 13:17)
 - 4) Love each other (John 13:34-35)

GOD'S WORD...

- Meets us where we are AND helps us move forward...
 - As we accept His truth... He shapes our lives.

OK...

- Over the next three chapters Paul uses the Nation of Israel...
 - To picture God's all-knowing faithful love:
 - Chapter #9 = Israel's past election.
 - They were chosen by God.
 - Chapter #10 = Israel's present rejection.
 - Blinded by unbelief.
 - Chapter #11 = Israel's future restoration.
 - The veil removed at the return of Christ.

NOW...

- Today follow along as I read (Rom. 9:4-5).

IDEA #1 – BENEFITS OF FAITH

(Ps 103:2-5) NLT gives individual benefits of faith in the Lord.

- Here in (Romans)... Paul lays out seven benefits unique to Israel:

Romans 9:4-13

"Where Do You Stand Today?"

- 1) *Adoption* = Claimed as God's people (Ex. 4:22-b) NKJV
 - For the church (Eph. 1:3-6) NKJV
- 2) *Glory* = God with His people (Ex. 40:34 & 38) NKJV
 - In the Gospels (John 1:14) NKJV
- 3) *Covenants* = Mosaic Covenant (Ex. 19:5) NKJV
 - The New Covenant (Heb. 8:10 & 12)
- 4) *Law* = Truth for the basis of justice (10-Commandments)
 - (Ex. 20)
 - The law of the spirit of life (Rom 8:2-3) NKJV
- 5) *Service of God* = The Tabernacle (house of God).
 - (Ex. 25-30)
 - Churches service to God (Rom 12:1) NKJV
- 6) *Promises* = New covenant (Jer. 31:31)
 - And regathering (Ezk. 36:24)
- 7) *Messiah* = The Christ (Isa. 9:6) *"unto us a Child is born"*

THE TAKEAWAY...

- Don't doubt the love of God!

IDEA #2 – POSER OR PARTNER?

- Not everyone is surrendered to God.
 - Israel as a Nation rejected Christ!
 - The Messiah came and they put Him to death.

SO... PAUL IS TEACHING THE CHURCH...

- It's NOT because of a lack of power in God's word.
 - (v.6) *"taken no effect"*
 - This speaks of a ship going off course.
 - Missing *a life of faith.*

ABRAHAM HAD TWO SONS...

- Ismael & Isaac.

Romans 9:4-13

"Where Do You Stand Today?"

- **Ismael** was Abraham's attempt to fulfill God's promise.
 - Abraham was presenting the work of **his flesh**...
 - And asked God to bless it.

BUT GOD TOLD HIM... NO!

- (Gen. 17:15-19) NKJV
- **Isaac** was God's undeserved favor...
 - Once Abraham surrendered control.

(John 8:33-37) NKJV

- This is a scene of conflict between Jesus and the Pharisees...
 - Over this very issue Paul is writing about in (Romans).
 - (John 8:33) *descendants* = (Grk. *Sperma*)

(v.37) N.E.T.

"...because my teaching makes no progress among you."

- Jesus wasn't denying their blood line from Abraham...
 - He was calling them out on being spiritually dead!

TODAY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH...

- Any verbal expressions of faith...
 - With a life that reject living out truth...
 - Must be rejected as DEAD!

IN THE PAST 14-YEARS OF MINISTRY...

- I've noticed a few **growing trends** in our community.

1) Biblical truth is not always taught in churches around here.

- Entertainment / partial truths / crowd pleasing / & lies are popular.
 - (2 Tim. 4:3-5) NLT

2) Accountability is mostly neglected.

- (Rom. 12:5) NKJV
 - Our choices matter in the family of faith.

HERE'S THE DANGEROUS RESULT...

- (Heb. 5:11-14) NLT

Romans 9:4-13

"Where Do You Stand Today?"

- When professing believer remains in persistent sin...
 - This indicates one of three problems:

- a) Lack of true faith.
- b) Corrupted faith...
- c) Immature faith

IDEA #3 – GOD HAS CHOSEN

OUR SECTION CLOSES OFF...

- By showing the sovereignty of God's will...
 - With two illustrations:

- 1) Abraham & Sara = Isaac over Ismael
- 2) Isaac & Rebecca = Jacob over Esau

~ IN CLOSING ~

(John 3:16-17) NLT