God's Faithful Word

Brent Moody · Romans 9:1–29

INTRODUCTION

- Paul is discussing how God works through nations, not individuals.
- There is the reality and has always been the idea of special selection of specific individuals for carrying out God's purposes in the world.
- The concept of the righteous remnant. That not all who are descended from Israel are of Israel.

1 Has God's Word Failed? Is God Unfair?

Romans 3:4

- No, God is faithful, even when some of the Israelites were faithless.
- His plan hasn't changed at all.
- He's the potter, we are the vessels. Who are we to say why should we be made this way?
- The depths of God's knowledge are beyond human comprehension. We don't understand the fullness of what God is trying to accomplish.

2 Election Has Always Come Through Promise, Not Flesh

Romans 9:6–13

- Election has always come through promise and not flesh.
- It's through Isaac that your offspring shall be named.
- He's going to work through Jacob and he's going to accomplish his plans for the world through Jacob, and Esau, he's not.
- It's he who calls. He is the planner. He is the wisdom behind this.
- Through Abraham's seed, all the nations of the earth would be blessed. This is nothing new.

3 Election Is About How God Chooses to Work

- Election is about how God chooses to work in the world. It's not about morality or individual salvation.
- God did not choose Israel because they were so strong and mighty and moral and had such good character and integrity and had done so many things right.
- Whether it is in the Old Testament or the New, election is not directly connected to this idea of eternal salvation.

4 God's Plan Is About Showing Mercy, Not Finding Fault

Jeremiah 18:1–12; Romans 9:21–23

- God's plan really is about showing mercy and not finding fault.

- God has enduring patience with the vessels of wrath. He's extremely patient and merciful and careful with them, trying to reshape them and reform them.
- Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.
- If that nation concerning which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it.
- What God is doing is he is seeking mercy for those who are willing.
- They are not firm. They're not in the kiln. It has not already been decided or destined.

5 Only a Remnant of Israel Will Be Saved

Isaiah 10:22; Romans 9:27

- There's lots of sons of Israel. As many as the sand of the sea, but only a remnant's going to be saved.
- Is it really that surprising that so many of you Jews are rejecting Jesus Christ?
- Whether it's Jew or Gentile, there's going to be a righteous remnant that is all unified in Jesus Christ as those who live by faith.
- We are in no place to judge the way that God works in the world. We are just here to live by faith and to follow his plan.

THE CHALLENGE

Why make it so hard for the potter? Why not just submit to his will and say, Lord, I trust you and I'm going to live by faith according to your plan?

MY NOTES