



Romans 9:2-5

² My heart is filled with bitter sorrow and unending grief ³ for my people, my Jewish brothers and sisters. ⁴ I would be willing to be forever cursed—cut off from Christ!—if that would save them. ⁴ They are the people of Israel, chosen to be God's adopted children. ⁵ God revealed his glory to them. He made covenants with them and gave them his law. He gave them the privilege of worshiping him and receiving his wonderful promises. ⁵ Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are their ancestors, and Christ himself was an Israelite as far as his human nature is concerned. And he is God, the one who rules over everything and is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.

Romans 9:6-8

⁶ Well then, has God failed to fulfill his promise to Israel?

No, for not all who are born into the nation of Israel are truly members of God's people! ⁷ Being descendants of Abraham doesn't make them truly Abraham's children. For the Scriptures say, "Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted," ⁸ though Abraham had other children, too. ⁸ This means that Abraham's physical descendants are not necessarily children of God. Only the children of the promise are considered to be Abraham's children.

Verses that show God's sovereignty in salvation:

1. Ephesians 1:4-5,11 "Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will ... also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will."
2. Ephesians 2:8 says even our faith is a gift from God.

3. In 2 Thessalonians 2:13, the apostle Paul tells his readers, "God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation."
4. Timothy 1:9 informs us that God "has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity."

Romans 9:22-25

In the same way, even though God has the right to show his anger and his power, he is very patient with those on whom his anger falls, who are destined for destruction. ²³ **He does this to make the riches of his glory shine even brighter on those to whom he shows mercy,** who were prepared in advance for glory. ²⁴ **And we are among those whom he selected, both from the Jews and from the Gentiles.**

²⁵ Concerning the Gentiles, God says in the prophecy of Hosea,

**"Those who were not my people,
I will now call my people.
And I will love those
whom I did not love before."**

Romans 9:30-33

³⁰ **What does all this mean?**

Even though the Gentiles were not trying to follow God's standards, they were made right with God. And it was by faith that this took place. ³¹ But the people of Israel, who tried so hard to get right with God by keeping the law, never succeeded. ³² Why not? Because **they were trying to get right with God by keeping the law instead of by trusting in him.** They stumbled over the great rock in their path. ³³ God warned them of this in the Scriptures when he said,

**"I am placing a stone in Jerusalem that makes people stumble,
a rock that makes them fall.
But anyone who trusts in him
will never be disgraced."**

Romans 10:1

Dear brothers and sisters,^[a] the longing of my heart and my prayer to God is for the people of Israel to be saved.

Deuteronomy 30:12-14

¹² It is not kept in heaven, so distant that you must ask, 'Who will go up to heaven and bring it down so we can hear it and obey?' ¹³ It is not kept beyond the sea, so far away that you must ask, 'Who will cross the sea to bring it to us so we can hear it and obey?' ¹⁴ No, the message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart so that you can obey it.

Romans 10:8-13

*And that message is the very message about faith that we preach: ⁹ If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and **believe in your** heart that God raised him from the dead, **you will be saved.** ¹⁰ For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. ¹¹ As the Scriptures tell us, "**Anyone** who trusts in him will never be disgraced."^[a] ¹² **Jew and Gentile^[b] are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him.** ¹³ For "**Everyone** who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

¹⁶ But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, "Lord, who has believed our message?"

Romans 11:1-6

I ask, then, has God rejected his own people, the nation of Israel? Of course not! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham and a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

² No, God has not rejected his own people, whom he chose from the very beginning. Do you realize what the Scriptures say about this? Elijah the prophet complained to God about the people of Israel and said,³ "Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me, too."^[a]

⁴ And do you remember God's reply? He said, "No, I have 7,000 others who have never bowed down to Baal!"^[a]

⁵ It is the same today, for a few of the people of Israel^[a] have remained faithful because of God's grace—his undeserved kindness in choosing them. ⁶ And since it is through God's kindness, then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God's grace would not be what it really is—free and undeserved.

Romans 11:11-12

¹¹ Did God's people stumble and fall beyond recovery? Of course not! **They were disobedient**, so God made salvation available to the Gentiles. **But he wanted his own people to become jealous and claim it for themselves.** ¹² Now if the Gentiles were enriched because the people of Israel turned down God's offer of salvation, think how much greater a blessing the world will share when they finally accept it.

Romans 11:30-36

³⁰ Once, you Gentiles were rebels against God, but when the people of Israel rebelled against him, God was merciful to you instead. ³¹ Now they are the rebels, and God's mercy has come to you so that they, too, will share^[a] in God's mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned everyone in disobedience so he could have mercy on everyone.

³³ Oh, how great are God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his ways!

³⁴ For who can know the Lord's thoughts?
Who knows enough to give him advice?^[a]

³⁵ And who has given him so much
that he needs to pay it back?^[a]

³⁶ For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory.
All glory to him forever! Amen.

