

"God's Relationship with Israel"

Romans 9-11

Part 18

Introduction: As we start out study tonight, I want to begin by using a few verses.

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

The Bible tells us of God's love for all the world and the Bible also tells us of God's desire for all of mankind.

2 Peter 3:9

⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

We are also told of God provision for all of mankind.

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

² And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

³ For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

The point I want to make with these verses is, God in His love for us has made a Way for us to be forgiven so that we can have eternal life. Then beyond that He reaches into the lives of people extending grace to open their eyes to their need of Him. He reveals Himself to everyone because He desires that they would seek Him.

Romans 1:18-20

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

¹⁹ Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

²⁰ For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Romans 2:1-4

Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

² But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

³ And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

⁴ Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Then beyond this God has entrusted the message of salvation to us who are believers to carry this into the world so that people can hear and believe.

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

¹⁸ And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

¹⁹ To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

This is a privilege and a responsibility and if we do not fulfill our responsibility then there will be people who go to hell that would have been saved had they heard the Gospel. God has provided the Way and so we must proclaim the Gospel.

Notice Romans 10:13-15

These are the verses which we stopped at last week. This is a reverse order of how a sinner is saved.

1. They call.
2. They believe.
3. They hear.
4. Someone preaches the Gospel.
5. Someone is sent to preach the Gospel.

At the end of verse 15 Paul reached back to Isaiah 52 where we read the same phrase, but the context is different. Back in Isaiah 52 the context is proclaiming the good news that the Babylonian captivity was over. Paul carries the phrase forward to here to apply it to the Gospel which is the good news that Jesus Christ came to set the captive free.

God's Relationship with Israel in the Present

Part 6

Romans 10

Notice Romans 10:16a

This is a very sad statement. Not all who have heard have **obeyed** which means they have not submitted to the Gospel. They have made the choice to disobey God's command.

1 John 3:23

²³ **And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.**

They have rejected the finished work of Jesus Christ. If we look back over the previous verses, we can see what it is they are rejecting:

1. They are rejecting God's righteousness - **Romans 10:3**
2. They are rejecting freedom from the Law - **Romans 10:4**
3. They are rejecting God's salvation - **Romans 10:9-10**
4. They are rejecting God riches - **Romans 10:12**
5. They are rejecting God's peace - **Romans 10:15**
6. They are rejecting the glad tidings sent from God - **Romans 10:15**

Men will listen closely to good news that pertains to business, finances, physical health, sports, elections and so on. They will accept the news from the media and from the press, but the majority will reject the good news that God sends. They reject the good news that will benefit them for all eternity. They reject the news that will save their souls. People will believe in flying saucers and aliens, but they won't believe in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Notice Romans 10:16b

Here at the end of this verse Paul points back to Isaiah 53.

Isaiah 53:1

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

Isaiah and Paul both ask, "Who hath believed our report?"

The answer to this question is, "NOT MANY HAVE BELIEVED!"

Matthew 7:13-14

¹³ Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

¹⁴ Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Probably the greatest burden which man brings before God is known in the words, "Lord they will not believe." Let me show you some verses in which you can clearly hear the burden of the writer.

Ezekiel 20:45-49

⁴⁵ Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

⁴⁶ Son of man, set thy face toward the south, and drop thy word toward the south, and prophesy against the forest of the south field:

⁴⁷ And say to the forest of the south, Hear the word of the LORD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will kindle a fire in thee, and it shall devour every green tree in thee, and every dry tree: the flaming flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north shall be burned therein.

⁴⁸ And all flesh shall see that I the LORD have kindled it: it shall not be quenched.

⁴⁹ Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! they say of me, Doth he not speak parables?

Amos 7:10-13

¹⁰ Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

¹¹ For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

¹² Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

¹³ But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court.

Jeremiah 44:16-19

¹⁶ As for the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the LORD, we will not hearken unto thee.

¹⁷ But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

¹⁸ But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.

¹⁹ And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings unto her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings unto her, without our men?

We read in Jeremiah 13 of Jeremiah's broken heart which was the result of the people's rejection of God's Word.

Jeremiah 13:15-17

¹⁵ Hear ye, and give ear; be not proud: for the LORD hath spoken.

¹⁶ Give glory to the LORD your God, before he cause darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains, and, while ye look for light, he turn it into the shadow of death, and make it gross darkness.

¹⁷ But if ye will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret places for your pride; and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because the LORD's flock is carried away captive.

I want to go back to Isaiah 53 again from where Paul quoted here in verses 16.

Isaiah 53:1

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

The "ARM OF THE LORD" is a symbol of strength. The word "REVEALED" means "DISCOVERED". The message of the Gospel is the power of God which is revealed to those who rest their faith in Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:16

¹⁶ *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

There is power in the Gospel for it is the Gospel that can do what nothing else can do and that is to change a man's life and to save him from eternal destruction. **But this message is hidden to the unsaved.**

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

³ *But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:*

⁴ *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

To the unsaved the message of the cross is foolishness.

1 Corinthians 1:18

¹⁸ *For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*

So, if the message is hidden to the unsaved then how can they be saved?

Notice Romans 10:17

Let us notice that the word "HEARING" is used two times in this verse. The word could be translated "REPORT". So, the verse could read;

So then faith cometh by report, and report by the word of God.

It is the Word of the Gospel which God uses to enable people to see the power of the cross. When people hear the Word of God and they respond in the proper way the Word of God's power begins to work in that person's life.

Let us remember that the Gospel is the POWER of God unto salvation.

Hebrews 4:12

¹² *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Let me show you something that Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 10.

2 Corinthians 10:4

⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;))

People are caught in strong holds. They would be sin and false teachings. We must use the only weapon we have in order to set them free.

Ephesians 6:12-17

¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Conclusion:

People MUST hear the report of the Gospel. It is our responsibility to proclaim the message. It is the hearer's responsibility to respond in the proper way. We will not win people to Christ with gimmicks or flowery words. People can only be saved by hearing the Gospel.