

God's Humbling Mercy

Romans 9:1-29

Key Verse: 16

1. Read verses 1-5. What is the reason for Paul's great anguish of heart? How does he show the depth of his concern for Israel? List the privileges which God gave Israel. Explain to what each refers. Which privilege is the greatest? Which privileges had they enjoyed and which had they refused?
2. Read verses 6-9. What problem is raised by Israel's failure? How does Paul answer? In his answer, what does he teach about God and his ways of working? What is the significance of God's promises in his redemptive history?
3. Read verses 10-13. What does Paul emphasize about God's purpose in election and predestination? What do you know about Jacob and Esau? How is Paul's perspective different from that of Genesis?
4. Read verses 14-18. Is God unjust? Who deserves God's mercy? What is God's basis for predestination in world salvation? How did God use Pharaoh in his world salvation work? What do these verses teach us about God?
5. Read verses 19-21. What is the point of the parable of the Potter? What can we learn from this parable about the Creator's purpose in each act of creation? Why is it important to accept God's sovereignty in history and in our own lives?
6. Read verses 22-29. What are the two classes of mankind? What do the prophecies of Hosea and Isaiah teach about God's dealing with each? How has God chosen to exercise his sovereignty to accomplish his world redemptive purpose?