

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 9:14-29

Recording Number SMX-1127

April 21, 2024

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

GOD'S GOOD — GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology
And How The Justified Shall Live by Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Foreknowledge, Adoption, Sovereignty, Justification, Predestination, Election

Romans 9:14-29

What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! 15 For He says to Moses, *"I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion."* 16 So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. 17 For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, *"For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth."* 18 Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens. :19 You will say to me then, *"Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?"* 20 But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, *"Why have you made me like this?"* 21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor? 22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, 23 AND that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, 24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but ALSO of the Gentiles? :25 As He says also in Hosea: *"I will call them My people, who were not My people, and her beloved, who was not beloved."* 26 *"And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not My people,' there they shall be called sons of the living God."* :27 Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel: *"Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, the remnant will be saved. 28 For He will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness, because the LORD will make a short work upon the earth."* 29 And as Isaiah said before: *"Unless the LORD of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we would have become like unto Sodom, and we would have been made likened unto Gomorrah."*

Now, there is a reason why this section I have titled;
GOD'S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Psalm 100:5

For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, and His truth *endures* to all generations.

Psalm 25:8

Good and upright *is* the LORD; therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

Nahum 1:7

The LORD *is* good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him.

Psalm 34:8

Oh, taste and see that **the LORD *is* good**; blessed *is* the man *who* trusts in Him!

Good – Good Sovereignty is Seen Here, 7 Times Over.

Psalm 34:1-8

I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.**2** My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. **3** Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together.**4** I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.**5** They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed. **6** This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.**7** The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them. **8** Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

“It is a rarely expressed reality of the Bible, but in the work of God regarding the redemption of man, there is the great Mediator that is necessary to achieve both. God who is infinite, sinless, perfect and spirit whereas man is finite, sinful, imperfect, and flesh, proves the overwhelming separation between God and man. In the infinite wisdom of God, He not only establishes the answer to redeem fallen man back to God, but that He would give His answer, His remedy, His restoration by gifting us His only begotten son Jesus Christ. Thus the redemption that is needed must come from an outside, perfect, untainted source - a worthy offering and promised deliverer in this, Jesus Christ died for the sins of all mankind.

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

GOD'S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

1.) Is Rooted In His Character

vs. 14-15

1a.) He is Himself Righteous

vs. 14

14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not!

Here, Paul is bringing into question the Nature and Chrematistics of God's Attributes.

Establishing The Baseline

- It is Impossible for God to Sin because Unrighteousness is Sin.
- What is the meaning of Righteousness?
- Are There any Righteous people?
- This is the Core Being of God - being God.

Conclusion; We are entering upon Holy Ground.

1b.) He is Himself Merciful

vs. 15a

15 For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy,

Point of Interest.

If God were to be unrighteous, He would not be merciful nor would He offer up mercy as being available to mankind.

Mercy

grk: eleeo

to have pity or mercy upon another, to extend mercy when mercy is needed.

Psalm 85:10

Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed.

Deuteronomy 7:9

"Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;

Mercy is not getting what is deserved.

What does the human race deserve? – and the answer is - death and hell.

Mercy is what is extended toward the condemned criminal.

We might hear a reporter say; “In an Act of Mercy, the kidnapper let the child go” or “In an Act of Mercy, Disneyland only charged you half price.”

GOD’S GOOD – GOOD SOVEREIGNTY HE IS ROOTED IN HIS CHARACTER

1c.) He is Himself Compassionate

vs. 15b

and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.”

Compassion grk: oikteiro

to have pity or mercy upon another with the purpose to bring comfort, aid, relief, and deliverance.

Matthew 9:35-38

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. **36** But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. **37** Then He said to His disciples, “*The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.*”

GOD’S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

2.) Is Anchored To His Justice

vs. 16-18

2a.) God is Just in His Plans

vs. 16

So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.

Frankly and Bluntly Put – You are so unable to save yourself apart from God’s shear Mercy that without His Mercy - there would be no hope for you.

Romans 3:10-12

As it is written: *“There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.”*

Not him (you) who wills – “I will do this and I will do that. I will.”

Nor him (you) who runs – “I will go this way and that way as I determine.

You Can Certainly Do and Go as you so desire,
But such energy has no impact on you finding forgiveness and entering Heaven above.

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right (smooth, easy) to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; 23 they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

GOD’S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY
HE IS ANCHORED IN HIS JUSTICE

2b.) God is Just in His Actions

vs. 17a

For the Scripture [The Bible] says to the Pharaoh, *“For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you,*

Paul now quotes The Lord

Exodus 9:16

But indeed for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.

to make his point even more clear.

Question to All?

What was God’s desire regarding Moses & Pharaoh both?

The Answer is;

“That I may show My power in you”

[how could this have played out? Did Pharaoh have to die?]

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

**GOD'S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY
HE IS ANCHORED IN HIS JUSTICE**

2c.) God is Just in His Response

vs. 17b-18

and that My name may be declared in all the earth." 18 Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

Hardens grk: skler'uno; in the middle voice
to set into place [by one then the other] or to be, becoming hardened,
incasement, to become more and more hard(ened).

The Example is Concrete. It Works Great as long as you don't stand in it. If you do and if you stay in it, it will become hard, the harder, the hardened, the set.

Exodus 8:15

But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he **hardened** his heart and did not heed them, as the LORD had said.

Exodus 8:32

But Pharaoh **hardened** his heart at this time also; neither would he let the people go.

Exodus 9:12

But the LORD **hardened** the heart of Pharaoh; and he did not heed them, just as the LORD had spoken to Moses.

Exodus 9:34

And when Pharaoh saw that the rain, the hail, and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet more; and he **hardened** his heart, he and his servants.

Exodus 10:1-2

Now the LORD said to Moses, *"Go in to Pharaoh; for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his servants, that I may show these signs of Mine before him, 2 and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and your son's son the mighty things I have done in Egypt, and My signs which I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD."*

Hebrews 3:7-8a

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: *“Today, if you will hear His voice,
8a Do not harden your hearts.*

1 John 4:14-16

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *as* Savior of the world. **15** Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. **16** And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

The Danger of an Unattended Heart – It will Harden over Time.

Isaiah 37:14-20

And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD. **15** Then Hezekiah prayed to the LORD, saying: **16** *“O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. 17 Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God. 18 Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations and their lands, 19 and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men’s hands - wood and stone. Therefore they destroyed them 20 Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD, You alone.”*

End of Study

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