

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

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

Romans 9:14-29

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

GOD'S GOOD — GOOD SOVEREIGNTY — PART 2

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."*

We're Learning About The Very Nature of God in This Series We've Titled;
GOD'S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

**All of this is working off of what might be the most powerful declaration of
Biblical truth – comfort ever!**

Romans 8:28-30

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

These are great verses that teach us the symbiotic characteristics of God's word. Meaning that there is homogenous structure to the Bible.

In this case – there is a perfect balance to the Doctrine of election & predestination – all based upon the foreknowledge of God.

And that should be of no surprise to us...

Psalm 105:1-10

Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name;
Make known His deeds among the peoples!**2** Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works!**3** Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!**4** Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore! **5** Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth,**6** O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob, His chosen ones! **7** He *is* the LORD our God; His judgments *are* in all the earth. **8** He remembers His covenant forever, the word *which* He commanded, for a thousand generations,**9** *The covenant* which He made with Abraham, And His oath to Isaac, **10** And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, To Israel *as* an everlasting covenant,

GOD'S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

1.) Is Rooted In His Character vs. 14-15

1a.) He is Himself Righteous vs. 14

1b.) He is Himself Merciful

vs. 15a

1c.) He is Himself Compassionate

vs. 15b

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.

There is an almost violent demand to the Christian – Christ-Follower, to fall into the Arms of the Awesome and Joyful Sovereignty of God's Mercy !

Romans 5:8-9

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

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,

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.

Hebrews 3:12

Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;

The Happy Concern of the True Christian

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.

GOD’S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

3.) Is Established In His Purposes

vs. 19-21

3a.) We Have Our Questions

vs. 19a-20

19 You will say to me then, *“Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?”* **20a** But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God?

This “questioning” proves our condition.

Colossians 1:21

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled.

R.W. Newell

Tells of a conversation he was having with a man that had sat down next to him on a train.

The conversation went in the direction of faith and belief in God. At some point in the conversation, Newell described that he “Asked the young man if he believed in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?” The young man burst out loud in laughter saying, ‘well if I am part of the elect, then I’ll be going to heaven; and if I’m not part of the elect, there’s no use in me worrying about it anyway!’. To that I sharply rebuked him, with these words: “The

Bible says:

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, (metanoia – change your mind) because He has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.” - - Acts 17:30-31

**GOD'S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY
IS ESTABLISHED IN HIS PURPOSES**

3b.) We Have Our Motives

vs. 20b

Will the thing formed say to him who formed it,
"Why have you made me like this?"

This is a powerful statement and a technical, theological reality.

"Will the thing formed say"

The "thing" being us –

#1 has no standing to even ask a question.

#2 has no capability to ask a correct question.

#3 has no relevance in reality when asking a question

An example of what is before us is this...

Without God's foreknowledge, predestination and election – no one, not one single human being would be, could be, should be - - saved!

Romans 3:10-18

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."13 "Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; "The poison of asps is under their lips";14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness."15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood;16 Destruction and misery are in their ways;17 And the way of peace they have not known."18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."*

Isaiah 64: 5c-6

And we need to be saved. **6** But we are all like an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousness *are* like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

3c.) We Have Our Opportunity

vs. 21

21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

Again – The example is here before us...

Without God's foreknowledge, predestination and election – no one, not one single human being would be, could be, should be - - saved!

2 Timothy 2:19-23

Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: *"The Lord knows those who are His,"* and, *"Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."* **20** But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. **21** Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. **22** Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. **23** But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

GOD'S GOOD - GOOD SOVEREIGNTY

4.) Is Awesome In All His Glory

vs. 22-24

4a.) His Wrath is Glorious

vs. 22

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,

These Are Hard Things to Consider without a
Grounded Biblical Footing.

wrath grk: or'ge
divine anger, pure vengeance, His holiness.

To this - I agree with Job & Isaiah when they say...

Job 26:14 esv

Behold, these are but the outskirts of His ways, and how small a whisper do we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power - who can understand?"

Isaiah 40:13 kjv

Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being His counsellor hath taught Him?

This We Know for Sure:

"His Wrath is His Divine Application of His Justice."
(*"you can't have justice without wrath and only God alone is qualified because His wrath is pure and just"*)

This has always made me chuckle a little every time I hear it.
“What if God” – We usually hear someone or ourselves think or say
“If I were God”

There is a great and yet severe warning here;

Isaiah 45:9

“Woe unto him who strives with his Maker

strive

heb: rub

is to contend with or to argue with. to complain, to find fault with,
to quarrel with, to disagree with, to oppose and blame.

Romans 2:4-5

Or do you despise (1) the riches of His goodness, (2) forbearance,
and (3) longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? **5** But in
accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself
wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,

Destruction is Coming Against All Those Who Strive with God.

Isaiah 63:10

But they (Israel) rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; So He (Holy Spirit) turned Himself against
them as an enemy, *And* He fought against them.

So Learn This Lesson Now - Stop Striving against God.

Ephesians 2:5-8

Even when we were dead in trespasses, *He* made us alive together with Christ (*by grace you
have been saved*), **6** and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places
in Christ Jesus, **7** that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in
His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. **8** For by grace you have been saved through faith, and
that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

End of Study

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