



# GRACE-POWERED LIVING

## A Study of the Book of ROMANS

**THE MYSTERY OF ELECTION**  
Romans 9:1-13

September 7, 2014 | 9:15 & 10:50am

**Introduction:** Our study of Romans has brought us to the fourth and most difficult section of Paul's letter. Over the next few weeks, we will discover what the Bible says – and doesn't say – about the doctrine of election.

### I. The Context Of Romans 9-11

#### Overview of Romans

Prologue		Problem of Righteousness		Provision of Righteousness		Power of Righteousness		Program of Righteousness		Practice of Righteousness	
1:1	1:17	1:18	3:20	3:21	5	6	8	9	11	12	16

(Adapted from THE PAULINE EPISTLES, Kenneth Boa, Walk Through The Bible, 1980, p. 6)

Romans 3:9-10 “<sup>9</sup>What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; <sup>10</sup>as it is written, ‘THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;’”

Romans 4:5 “But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness,”

Romans 8:2 “For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”

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### A. Thematic Connection of Romans 9-11

Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to every one who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."

### B. Contextual Connection (Romans 8:29-30)

Romans 8:29-30 "<sup>29</sup>For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; <sup>30</sup>and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified."

Romans 8:39 "...[nothing] shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Deuteronomy 7:7-8a "<sup>7</sup>The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples, <sup>8a</sup>but because the Lord loved you"

### II. Paul's Concern For Israel (Romans 9:1-5)

Romans 9:1-3 "<sup>1</sup>I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup>that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh,"

Exodus 32:32 "But now, if Thou wilt, forgive their sin – and if not, please blot me out from Thy book which Thou has written!"

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### III. God's Elective Purpose For Israel (Romans 9:6-13)

Romans 9:6-9 “<sup>6</sup>But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For they are not all Israel who are descended from Israel; <sup>7</sup>neither are they all children because they are Abraham’s descendants, but: ‘THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED.’ <sup>8</sup>That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants. <sup>9</sup>For this is a word of promise: ‘AT THIS TIME I WILL COME, AND SARAH SHALL HAVE A SON.’”

1. No one is **lost** without choosing to be **lost**; no one is **saved** without choosing to be **saved**.
2. God’s desire is to always save as **many** people as possible, not as **few** as possible.
3. There are truths in the Bible that appear to be **contradictory** and cannot be explained.

#### A. The Fact of Election

#### B. The Examples of Election (Romans 9:6-13)

1. **Abraham** (Romans 9:6-7a)

Romans 9:6-7a “<sup>6</sup>But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For they are not all Israel who are descended from Israel; <sup>7a</sup>neither are they all children because they are Abraham’s descendants,”

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### 2. **Isaac** (Romans 9:7b-9)

Romans 9:7b-8 “<sup>7b</sup> ‘THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED.’ <sup>8</sup>That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants.”

### 3. **Jacob** (Romans 9:10-13)

Romans 9:10-13 “<sup>10</sup> And not only this, but there was Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our father, Isaac; <sup>11</sup>for though the twins were not yet born, and had not done anything good or bad, in order that God’s purpose according to His choice might stand, not because of works, but because of Him who calls, <sup>12</sup>it was said to her, ‘THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER.’ <sup>13</sup>Just as it is written, ‘JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED.’”

### C. The Implications of Election

1. The doctrine of election encourages **confidence** in God’s plan.
2. The doctrine of election encourages **compassion** for lost people.

Conclusion