

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

November 18, 2018

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Exodus 32:1-14

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Is God Unfair?* (Romans 9:14-19)

Announcements:

A blessed Thanksgiving to all of our church family.

Jonathon Nichols is in the hospital battling Chrohn's, and a watermelon sized tumor was found in Danielle Marcukaitis.

Next Sunday we will finish our study of Romans 9.

Steve Schwieger will fill in for Dave next Sunday.

A toy drum: We need one for our Christmas program.

Midweek Bible study: This Wednesday at 7 with Steve.

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone
Romans 9:6-13 *Does God Damn People To Hell?*

When God broke off relations with Israel and raised up Paul to begin a new program with the Gentiles, many Jews wondered what happened to the promises God made Israel, like the kingdom He promised them. But Paul declares God didn't break His word to Israel, it's just that not all Jews are Israel (9:6). As he taught earlier, only *saved* Jews are Israel (Rom.2:28,29). God promised *saved* Jews the kingdom, and they'll get it someday (Rom. 11:26,27). Romans 9 is about why God broke off relations with *unsaved* Jews.

Jews always thought they were saved because they were Abraham's seed, something Paul disputes in Romans 9:7. John the Baptist argued against this thinking (Mt.3:9), as did the Lord (John 8:37-39). Now Paul proves it by pointing out that Abraham had two sons, but while Ishmael was his *seed* he wasn't his *child* and so wasn't his *heir* (Gen. 21:9,10,12). Paul cites this to prove that just because all Jews are his *seed* doesn't mean they are His *children* who can "inherit eternal life" (Mark 10:17), the eternal life God promised Abraham.

Paul knows Jews won't argue this. They deny the claim of Arabs that the Promised Land belongs to them as the seed of Abraham, so they can't argue that eternal life belongs to all of *them* as the seed of Abraham. Isaac was the child of promise (Rom.9:8,9), so he was *the heir* of God's promises.

Paul cites another example with Rebekah and *her* two sons (Rom.9:10). As the son of Abraham's heir, which of *them* would be the heir? Paul says God decided this before they were born (v.11). This is a verse Calvinism uses to say God chooses some to be saved and others to be damned before they are born. But God chose one *to serve the other* (Rom.9:12) *not* to be saved or damned.

When Sarah asked God why they fought so much in the womb, God explained they were already so different they'd father two nations (Gen.25:19-23). Jacob would father the

Jews, Esau would father the Edomites. That means the Edomites were *another* seed of Abraham that weren't his *heirs*. Paul knew the Jews wouldn't argue this either.

Why'd God choose Jacob over Esau? Same reason He chose Abel over Cain, Isaac over Ishmael, and Ephraim over Manasseh. To teach God accepts the second born and rejects the firstborn (John 3:3-10). It's like how all men are God's offspring (Acts 17:28) but that doesn't make them His children. We are only children of God by faith (Gal.3:26).

But don't feel sorry for Esau! He was born with the birthright, the right to rule his younger brother, but he despised it and sold it to him (Gen.25:29-34). He had first dibs on being Abraham's heir, so he couldn't complain when he himself lost it. God didn't *make* him sell it, He just *predicted* he would.

Paul cites this because he is still addressing the question of what happened to Israel, and Esau is a type of Israel. As Jews, they were born with the birthright of Abraham. They were born with first dibs on eternal life, first dibs on the promised land, first dibs on ruling the world *from* the land in the kingdom (Isa.2:3,4).

But Abraham was promised the world through faith, not through the law (Rom.4:13). The law was made with *all* Jews, but the only way the Jews could *get* the world was "through the righteousness of faith." If they didn't believe, they gave up their birthright to rule the world.

This is why Peter reminded them they were the children of the covenant God made with *Abraham*, not with Isaac (Acts 3:25), and so had first dibs on the kingdom that the King had come to bring them. When they refused Him, they *judged themselves* unworthy of it (Acts 13:46) just like Esau judged himself unworthy of his birthright by selling it. And they couldn't complain about it any more than he could!

Calvinism uses Romans 9:13 to say God hated Esau because He didn't choose him to be saved, but we've seen

in recent messages God *doesn't* choose who will be saved. Also, "hate" in the Bible means *to love less* (Gen.29:28-31; Lu.14:26 cf.Mt. 10:37). Plus, God didn't hate Esau *before he was born*, it was centuries after he died (Mal.1:2,3). That's more proof God doesn't damn men before they're born.

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

November 18, 2018

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

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