

# “The Romans Road Rebooted”—Part 15

JULY 27, 2014

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**LAST WEEK: BELIEF and DISBELIEF in Christ Jesus are no small matters!**

1. It ought to be our DESIRE that ALL we come into contact with be saved without any HINDRANCE on our part. 2. Many people have a ZEAL for the things of God, but do not KNOW or DESIRE to KNOW God. They want what is at Jesus' TABLE, but do not want JESUS. 3. Zealousness for God in Christ Jesus is POINTLESS if we seek to ESTABLISH or our own righteousness and not SUBMIT to God. 4. Christ Jesus has not ABOLISHED the LAW, but He is the END GOAL and fulfillment of the LAW. 5. The nonexistence of SALVATION for these individuals is not an issue of IGNORANCE, but because a lack of SUBMISSION to righteousness found in Christ. 6. Therefore, salvation is a matter of HEARING the WORD of CHRIST. 7. No one is INNOCENT in their disbelief.

***We seek to answer these questions today: Who are the PEOPLE of God?***

***Who is ISRAEL? What does this have to do with the SOVEREIGNTY of God?***

## **1. The people of God are HIS people. (11:1)**

- **1 PETER 2:9-10 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup>*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.* <sup>10</sup>*Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

- **DEUTERONOMY 7:6-8 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup>*For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.* <sup>7</sup>*It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples,* <sup>8</sup>*but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.*

## **2. The people of God are a people FORKNOWN by God and therefore not REJECTED. (11:2a)**

- **PROGINÓSKŌ (THAYER'S GREEK DICT.)**

*to have knowledge before hand; to foreknow...of those whom God elected to salvation; to predestinate*

- **PRO (THAYER'S GREEK DICT.)**

*before*

- **GINÓSKŌ (STRONG'S GREEK DICT.)**

*To know absolutely*

- **GINÓSKŌ (THAYER'S GREEK DICT.)**

*A Jewish idiom for sexual intercourse between a man and a woman*

- **ROMANS 8:28-30 (ESV)**

<sup>28</sup>*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.* <sup>29</sup>*For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.* <sup>30</sup>*And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

## **3. The people of God are a people KEPT FOR or RESERVED unto God by God. (11:2b-4)**

- **PSALM 4:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

- **2 TIMOTHY 2:20-21 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup> Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

- **ROMANS 9:19-24 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> You will say to me then, "Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?" <sup>20</sup> But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?" <sup>21</sup> Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? <sup>22</sup> What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, <sup>23</sup> in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— <sup>24</sup> even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?

#### **4. The people of God are a people CHOSEN by the GRACE of God. (11:5-6)**

- **ROMANS 11:5 (NASB)**

<sup>5</sup> In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice.

- **JOHN 1:12-13 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

- **EPHESIANS 2:8-10 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

#### **5. The people of God are an ELECT people, not because of their own GREATNESS, but because of God ALONE. (11:7-10)**

- **EKLOGÉ (THAYER'S GREEK DICT.)**

*the act of picking out, choosing; of the act of God's free will by which before the foundation of the world he decreed his blessings to certain persons; the decree made from choice by which he determined to bless certain persons through Christ by grace alone*

- **EPHESIANS 2:8-10 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

#### **6. The Jews did not FALL beyond salvation and their rejection is not IRREVERSIBLE, but it is by their UNBELIEF that salvation has come to Gentiles and in order to make them JEALOUS. (11:11-14)**

- **2 CORINTHIANS 3:7-18 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, <sup>8</sup> will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? <sup>9</sup> For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. <sup>10</sup> Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. <sup>11</sup> For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory. <sup>12</sup> Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup> not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it

*taken away.<sup>15</sup> Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts.<sup>16</sup> But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.<sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*

## **7. If the Lord will save us who are WILD and not by NATURE part of the vine, will He not save those who are NATURAL BRANCHES? This leaves no room for ARROGANCE. (11:15-19)**

- **ROMANS 12:3 (ESV)**

*<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.*

- **JOHN 15:1-5 (ESV)**

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.<sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.<sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.<sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.<sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."*

## **8. The reasons that the Jews were cutoff was because of their UNBELIEF, they lacked FAITH and they did not FEAR the Lord. (11:20)**

- **ROMANS 10:8-10 (ESV)**

*<sup>8</sup>"...The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);<sup>9</sup> because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.<sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.*

- **PROVERBS 1:7 (ESV)**

*<sup>7</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

## **9. God is JUST and nobody is EXEMPT. (11:21)**

- **ROMANS 3:23 (ESV)**

*<sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...*

## **10. If the Jews do not continue in unbelief, they will be GRAFTED in again, but this happens the same way as the Gentiles, by GRACE through FAITH in Christ Jesus. (11:22-24)**

- **ROMANS 10:12 (ESV)**

*<sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.*

- **COLOSSIANS 3:11 (ESV)**

*<sup>11</sup>Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.*

- **GALATIANS 3:27-29 (ESV)**

*<sup>27</sup>For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.<sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.<sup>29</sup> And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.*

## **11. Therefore all ISRAEL will be saved. (11:25-27)**

- **HOÚTŌ (THAYER'S GREEK DICT.)**

*in this manner, thus or so*

- **PAS (THAYER'S GREEK DICT.)**

All that are included; very rarely "all" means all persons; the word is generally used to signify that Christ has redeemed some of all sorts...some Jews, some Gentiles, some rich, some poor, and has not restricted His redemption to either Jew or Gentile

- **ROMANS 9:6-13, 27 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, <sup>7</sup> and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named."<sup>8</sup> This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.<sup>9</sup> For this is what the promise said: "About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son."<sup>10</sup> And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac,<sup>11</sup> though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—<sup>12</sup> she was told, "The older will serve the younger."<sup>13</sup> As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

<sup>27</sup> And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: "Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved..."

## **12. The GIFT and CALLING unto salvation are by God and He will not REPENT or RECONT. (11:28-32)**

- **ROMANS 6:23 (ESV)**

<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **1 JOHN 2:1-3 (ESV)**

But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.<sup>2</sup> He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.<sup>3</sup> And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

- **1 JOHN 4:9-10 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.<sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

## **13. What we find as we discover who the people of God are and their purpose, and as we discover who Israel is, we find that we can rest ONLY in the Sovereignty of God in ALL THINGS and at ALL TIMES. (11:33-36)**

We have stated the issue boldly, but there is no escaping the conclusion. To argue that God is 'trying His best' to save all mankind, but that the majority of men will not let Him save them, is to insist that the will of the Creator is impotent, and that the will of the creature is omnipotent. To throw blame, as many do, upon the Devil, does not remove the difficulty, for if Satan is defeating the purpose of God, then Satan is Almighty and God is no longer the Supreme Being.

To declare the Creator's original plan has been frustrated by sin, is to *dethrone* God. To suggest that God was taken by surprise in Eden and that He is now attempting to remedy an unforeseen calamity, is to *degrade* the Most High to the level of a finite, erring mortal. To argue that man is a free moral agent and the determiner of his own destiny, and that therefore he has the power to checkmate his Maker, is to *strip* God of the attribute of Omnipotence. To say that the creature has burst the bounds assigned by his Creator, and that God is now practically a helpless Spectator before the sin and suffering entailed by Adam's fall, is to *repudiate* the express declaration of Holy Writ, namely, "Surely the wrath of man shall praise Thee: the remainder of wrath shalt Thou restrain" (Psalm 76:10). In a word, to deny the Sovereignty of God is to enter upon a path which if followed to its logical terminus, is to arrive at blank atheism.

*The Sovereignty of God, A.W. Pink, pg.12*