

Romans 9

Chapter 9 of 16 · 33 Verses · Authorized King James Version

God's Sovereign Choice

¹ I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,

² That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart.

³ For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

⁴ Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises;

⁵ Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

⁶ Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:

⁷ Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

⁸ That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

⁹ For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son.

¹⁰ And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac;

11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger.

13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

God's Mercy

14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.

15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.

18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.

19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?

20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

25 As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved.

26 And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God.

27 Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved:

28 For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth.

29 And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha.

Israel's Unbelief

30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.

31 But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness.

32 Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone;

33 As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Believe — πιστεύω (Pisteuo)

To believe, trust, have faith

The Greek **pisteuo** (πιστεύω) means to believe or trust—active reliance upon Christ. 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish' (John 3:16).

Born Again — γεννάω ἄνωθεν (Gennao Anothēn)

Born again, born from above

The Greek phrase combines **gennao** (to beget/birth) with **anōthen** (from above/again). Jesus told Nicodemus, 'Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God' (John 3:3)—a spiritual rebirth by the Holy Spirit.

Covenant — διαθήκη (Diatheke)

Covenant, testament

The Greek **diatheke** (διαθήκη) means covenant or testament—a binding arrangement. The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34) is ratified by Christ's blood, surpassing the old (Hebrews 8:6-13).

Faith — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

Glory — δόξα (Doxa)

Glory, majesty, splendor

The Greek **doxa** (δόξα) means glory, splendor, or magnificence—the radiant manifestation of God's perfection. Christ revealed the Father's glory: 'we beheld his glory' (John 1:14).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Holy — ἅγιος (Hagios)

Holy, sacred, set apart

The Greek **hagios** (ἅγιος) denotes holiness—moral purity and separation unto God. Believers are called 'saints' (hagioi), those set apart for God through Christ's sanctifying work.

Law — νόμος (Nomos)

Law

The Greek **nomos** (νόμος) denotes law—particularly the Mosaic law. While believers are not under law but under grace (Romans 6:14), Christ fulfilled the law (Matthew 5:17) and wrote it on believers' hearts (Hebrews 8:10).

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Love — ἀγάπη (Agape)

Divine love

The Greek **agape** (ἀγάπη) denotes self-sacrificial, unconditional love—the highest form of love, characterizing God's nature (1 John 4:8) and the love Christians are called to demonstrate.

Mercy — ἔλεος (Eleos)

Mercy, compassion

The Greek **eleos** (ἔλεος) denotes compassionate mercy—pity for those in distress. God is 'rich in mercy' (Ephesians 2:4), withholding deserved punishment and granting undeserved kindness.

Righteous — δίκαιος (Dikaios)

Righteous, just

The Greek **dikaios** (δίκαιος) means righteous or just—conforming to God's standard. Christ's righteousness is imputed to believers through faith (Romans 4:5), making them legally righteous before God.

Save — σῶζω (Sozo)

To save, deliver, heal

The Greek **sozo** (σῶζω) means to save—deliverance from sin, death, and judgment. 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved' (Acts 16:31). The word also encompasses physical healing and spiritual wholeness.

Truth — ἀλήθεια (Aletheia)

Truth, reality

The Greek **aletheia** (ἀλήθεια) denotes truth or reality—that which corresponds to actuality. Jesus declared, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life' (John 14:6), embodying ultimate reality.

Word — λόγος (Logos)

Word, reason, message

The Greek **Logos** (Λόγος) means word, reason, or message—the rational principle underlying reality. John identifies Christ as the eternal Logos: 'In the beginning was the Word' (John 1:1).

Wrath — ὀργή (Orgē)

Wrath, anger

The Greek **orgē** (ὀργή) means wrath—settled, righteous anger against sin. Believers are 'saved from wrath through him' (Romans 5:9), as Christ bore God's wrath on the cross, satisfying divine justice.

CROSS REFERENCES

Romans 9:1 **Truth:** 2 Corinthians 11:10; 1 Timothy 2:7. **Spirit:** Romans 1:9; 8:16. **Parallel theme:** Galatians 1:20; 1 Timothy 1:5. **References Christ:** 2 Corinthians 12:19; Philippians 1:8. **Witness:** 2 Corinthians 1:12; 1 Thessalonians 2:5

Romans 9:2

Parallel theme: Psalms 119:136; Jeremiah 9:1; 13:17; Lamentations 3:51; Ezekiel 9:4; Philippians 3:18

Romans 9:3 **Parallel theme:** Romans 11:14; Exodus 32:32; Esther 8:6; Acts 13:26. **Curse:** 1 Corinthians 12:3; Galatians 3:10. **References Christ:** 1 Corinthians 16:22

Romans 9:4 **Covenant:** Genesis 17:2; Psalms 89:3; Acts 2:39; Ephesians 2:12; Hebrews 9:1. **Word:** Romans 9:6; Psalms 147:19. **References Israel:** Exodus 4:22. **References God:** Deuteronomy 7:6. **Glory:** 1 Kings 8:11

Romans 9:5

Blessing: Romans 1:25; Psalms 106:48. **References Christ:** Romans 1:3; 1 John 5:20. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 7:14; 11:1; John 10:30; Revelation 1:18; 22:16. **References God:** 1 Timothy 3:16

Romans 9:6 **References God:** Romans 3:3; Numbers 23:19; Galatians 6:16. **References Israel:** John 1:47. **Word:** Isaiah 55:11; Matthew 24:35; John 10:35. **Parallel theme:** 2 Timothy 2:13

Romans 9:7

References Abraham: Genesis 21:12. **Parallel theme:** Galatians 4:23; Hebrews 11:18

Romans 9:8 **References God:** Romans 8:14; John 1:13. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 87:6

Romans 9:9

Parallel theme: Genesis 18:10; 18:14; 21:2. **Covenant:** Genesis 17:21; Hebrews 11:17

Romans 9:11 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 51:5; Isaiah 14:24; 2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 3:5; 2 Peter 1:10; Revelation 17:14. **References God:** Romans 4:17; 1 Peter 5:10

Romans 9:13 **Love:** Deuteronomy 21:15

Romans 9:14 **References God:** 2 Chronicles 19:7. **Righteousness:** Romans 2:5; Genesis 18:25; Deuteronomy 32:4; Job 8:3; 35:2; Psalms 92:15; 145:17; Jeremiah 12:1; Revelation 16:7

Romans 9:15 **Grace:** Romans 9:16; Exodus 33:19; Isaiah 27:11; Micah 7:18

Romans 9:16 **Grace:** Ephesians 2:8. **References God:** Romans 9:11; Philippians 2:13. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 65:1; Luke 10:21; John 3:8; James 1:18

Romans 9:17

Resurrection: Exodus 9:16; Esther 4:14. **Parallel theme:** Romans 11:4; Joshua 9:9; 1 Samuel 4:8; Proverbs 16:4; Isaiah 37:20; John 17:26. **Word:** Galatians 3:22; 4:30

Romans 9:18 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 4:21; 7:13; Deuteronomy 2:30; Joshua 11:20; Isaiah 63:17

Romans 9:19 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 50:20; 2 Chronicles 20:6; Job 9:19; Psalms 76:10; Daniel 4:35; Mark 14:21; 1 Corinthians 15:12; 15:35; James 1:13

Romans 9:20 **Creation:** Isaiah 29:16; 1 Corinthians 1:20. **Parallel theme:** Job 16:3; 33:13; 36:23; 40:8; Isaiah 64:8; Matthew 20:15. **References God:** Job 40:2; 1 Timothy 6:5

Romans 9:21

Parallel theme: Romans 9:11; 9:18; Proverbs 16:4; Isaiah 64:8; Jeremiah 22:28; Hosea 8:8; Acts 9:15

Romans 9:22 **Parallel theme:** Romans 9:17; 9:21; Exodus 9:16; Proverbs 16:4; 2 Timothy 2:20; 1 Peter 2:8. **References God:** Jude 1:4. **Judgment:** Psalms 90:11; 1 Thessalonians 2:16; 2 Peter 2:3

Romans 9:23 **Parallel theme:** Romans 2:4; Ephesians 2:10. **Glory:** Ephesians 3:16

Romans 9:24 **Parallel theme:** Colossians 3:11

Romans 9:25

Parallel theme: Hosea 2:23; 1 Peter 2:10. **Love:** Romans 1:7; Ezekiel 16:8; John 16:27

Romans 9:26 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 43:6; 2 Corinthians 6:18. **References God:** Romans 8:16; Galatians 3:26

Romans 9:27 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 22:17; Isaiah 1:9; Jeremiah 5:10; Ezekiel 6:8. **References Israel:** Hosea 1:10

Romans 9:28 **References Lord:** Isaiah 10:23. **Righteousness:** Acts 17:31; Revelation 19:11

Romans 9:29

References Lord: Deuteronomy 29:23; Isaiah 1:9; Jeremiah 49:18; 50:40; Amos 4:11; James 5:4. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 13:19; 2 Peter 2:6; Jude 1:7

Romans 9:30 **Faith:** Romans 4:11; 10:6; Galatians 2:16; Philippians 3:9; Hebrews 11:7.
Righteousness: Romans 9:14; Isaiah 51:1. **Parallel theme:** Romans 10:20; Ephesians 2:12

Romans 9:31 **References Israel:** Romans 11:7. **Righteousness:** Romans 3:20

Romans 9:32 **Parallel theme:** Romans 10:3; 11:11; Matthew 13:57; Luke 2:34; 7:23; 1
Corinthians 1:23. **Word:** 1 Peter 2:8. **Faith:** Romans 4:16

Romans 9:33

Faith: Romans 10:11; Psalms 25:20; Isaiah 28:16. **Parallel theme:** Romans 5:5; Psalms 118:22;
Isaiah 45:17; 54:4; Matthew 21:42; Philippians 1:20; 1 John 2:28

From **KJV Study** · kjvstudy.org

The Authorized King James Version · Public Domain