

Romans 9:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

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

—Paul identifies the mercy-vessels: hous kai ekalesen hēmas (οὐς καὶ ἐκάλεσεν ἡμᾶς, 'whom he also called, us'). Effective calling (kaleō, καλέω) executes election. God doesn't merely invite; he summons efficaciously. Those called are 'not from Jews only, but also from Gentiles.' The ou monon...alla kai (οὐ μόνον...ἀλλὰ καί) structure emphasizes inclusion without exclusion—both Jews and Gentiles comprise the elect.

This resolves the Romans 9-11 crisis: God's promise hasn't failed because true Israel consists of elect from both Jew and Gentile. The church is the one people of God, called by sovereign grace. Election transcends ethnic boundaries—it always did (Rahab, Ruth). The Gentile inclusion isn't plan B; it was always God's purpose to have 'one flock, one shepherd' (John 10:16). Israel's unbelief opened the door to manifest what was purposed from eternity.

Historical Context

This prepares for chapters 10-11's full development: Israel's stumbling brought Gentile salvation (11:11-12), yet a remnant of Israel is saved (11:1-6), and ultimately 'all Israel shall be saved' (11:26). The calling of Gentiles fulfills Abrahamic promise: 'in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed' (Genesis 12:3).

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God's calling of both Jews and Gentiles demonstrate that election was never based on ethnicity?
2. What is the relationship between God's eternal election and his temporal calling in history?
3. How does Gentile inclusion (which might have seemed to nullify Jewish privilege) actually fulfill God's promise to Abraham?

Interlinear Text

οὐς	καὶ	ἐκάλεσεν	ἡμᾶς	οὐ	μόνον	ἐξ	Ἰουδαίων	ἀλλὰ
whom	Even	he hath called	us	not	only	of	the Jews	but
G3739	G2532	G2564	G2248	G3756	G3440	G1537	G2453	G235
καὶ	ἐξ	ἐθνῶν						
Even	of	the Gentiles						
G2532	G1537	G1484						

Additional Cross-References

Colossians 3:11 (Parallel theme): Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.