



Epistle to The Romans



Lesson 13, Romans 9:6-13 - The Doctrine of Election

Review:

The Four Covenants (Unconditional)

1. **The Abrahamic Covenant:** The basis of all our privileges and being challenged by the world today.
2. **The Land Covenant:** Being challenged by Islam.
3. **The Davidic Covenant:** Being challenged by (most) churches! It may astonish you to discover how critical the Davidic Covenant is to an understanding of eschatology, and the events that lie ahead of all of us!
4. **The Everlasting Covenant** (with Israel yet claimed by churches).

Why is all that so important? 1) Because of the summary of the purpose, tragedy, and triumph of all history (Mt 23:37-39); and 2) Because the Davidic Covenant impacts each of us more than we can imagine.

Matthew's Primary Theme: "The Kingdom of Heaven"

Matthew 23:37-39: The Purpose of all history
The Tragedy of all history
The Triumph of all history



The Purpose of All History

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings... Matthew 23:37

The purpose of all history was that Jesus would come and set up His kingdom. He is using a figure of speech in Matthew about gathering His children together. The image of the mother bird gathering and covering her brood is a familiar one. Moses used it in his farewell sermon (Deut 32:11). It is a picture of love, tender care, and a willingness to die to protect others. Jesus did die for the sins of the world, including the nation of Israel: but "His own received Him not" (Jn 1:11).

The Tragedy of All History

...and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. Matthew 23:38

The Triumph of All History

For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Matthew 23

“...till,” Jesus left the nation with the promise that He would one day return, the nation would see Him and say, “Blessed be He that cometh in the name of the Lord!” This is a quotation from Psalm 118:26, that great Messianic psalm that was quoted so many times in His last week of ministry. The crowds had used those very words (Mt 21:9).

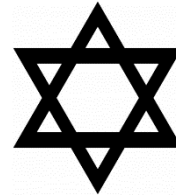
Israel’s repentance is a prerequisite for Jesus’ return to set up His Kingdom.

I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me earnestly. Hosea 5:15

The Destiny of Israel: The Missing Key of “Systematic Theology”

Divisions of Theology

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| • Bibliology | The Bible |
| • Theology Proper | Attributes of God |
| • Christology | Lord Jesus Christ |
| • Pneumatology | Holy Spirit |
| • Angelology | Angels fallen and unfallen |
| • Anthropology | Man |
| • Soteriology | Salvation |
| • Ecclesiology | The Church |
| • Eschatology | End-Times: “Last Things” |



Notice what’s missing? The Division about Israel or Israelology. The study of Israel as an instrument in God’s program for man, should be listed in between “The Church” and the “Last Things.”

The Interval of Daniel Chapter 9

In Daniel Chapter 9 verse 24 we are given the scope of this short but powerful prophecy. Verse 25 is the incredible prediction of the exact day that the Messiah will present himself as King to Israel, the first time. Verse 27 deals with the end time 70th week of Daniel. In verse 26 it describes an interval from Christ’s first coming, until his second coming.

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: And the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. Daniel 9:26

In this interval the Messiah will be “...cut off” from the word ‘karat’, meaning to cut off, eliminate, kill, execute. He will be executed “Not for Himself” but for others as a substitution.

The people of “the prince that shall come” historically are the Romans. Thus, the Prince to come (Anti-Christ) will be of the Roman Empire (but NOT necessarily from Europe!) Sanctuary destroyed, diaspora etc.

An interval, or gap, clearly required by v. 26 are the events described are after the 69th and prior to the 70th week. The 70th week of Daniel (The Tribulation) is one of the most described events in the Bible. It lies ahead of us, but not by far.

Blindness Declared

Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. Luke 19:42

For How Long?

For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the Fullness of the Gentiles be come in. Romans 11:25

Israel and the Church

- Distinctions: Different Origins, Missions, Destinies.
- “Replacement” views deny Israel its place in God’s program (Rom 9, 10, 11) and would seem to make God a Liar. This laid the basis for Christian anti-Semitism.
- The “70th Week” (Tribulation) deals specifically with Israel.
- Paul’s always divides the world into the trichotomy: Jews, Gentiles, Church (1 Cor 10:32).
- Distinctives reappear after Revelation 4.

The Church Interval

- Interval also implied: Isa 61:1,2 (re: Lk 4:18-20); Rev 12:5,6. Also: Isa 54:7; Hos 3:4,5; Amos 9:10,11; (Acts 15:13-18); Micah 5:2,3; Zech 9:9,10; Lk 1:31,32; 21:24 (actually implied in 24 places).
- Interval defined: Lk 19:42 until Rom 11:25.
- This interval is the period of the Church, an era kept secret in OT. Jesus talks about it in Mt 13:34,35 and Paul expounds on it in Eph 3:5,9.

“Israel” is never used of the Church (73X). There is only one verse, Gal 6:16 that is misunderstood, by ignoring the Greek, which clearly distinguishes the two groups. It seems that the Lord deals with Israel and the Church mutually exclusively.

The Church

- † Prerequisites:
 - Atonement: Mt 16:18, 21
 - Resurrection: Eph 1:20-23

- Ascension: Eph 4:7-11 (Spiritual gifts only after ascension)
- ✝ Born at Pentecost: Col 1:18; 1 Cor 12:13 Acts 1:5, 11:15-16

Israel is born in Exodus 4. They went down to Egypt as family and came out a nation. God speaks of them as his first born after coming out of Egypt.

Mystery Character (Church)

The Church: (born in a miracle and ends in a miracle)

Body Concept	Eph 3:3-5,9
Indwelling every believer	Col 1:26-27
Bride of Christ	Eph 5:22-32
Harpazo ("Rapture")	1 Cor 15:50-58
One "New Man"	Eph 2:15; Cf. Rev 12:5
Distinguished from Jews & Gentiles	1 Cor 10:32



More Review

The diaspora (wandering Jew) occurs at the fall of the temple in 70AD. This occurs up until May 14, 1948 when Israel is reborn. The Church was established at Pentecost a few decades before the fall of the temple. The church continues until the rapture. At the end of the tribulation the Davidic Throne will be set up.

Failure to recognize the Davidic Covenant has led to errors in eschatological views... Why is this so important? 1) Because of the purpose, tragedy, and triumph of all history (Mt 23:37-39); and, 2) Eschatological Heresies, such as Amillennialism and Post-Millennialism.

The Record of the Early Church: 7 Letters to 7 Churches (Rev 2 & 3)

Seven "Report Cards" (critiques by the Lord Himself...written by John in a.d. 96): All churches were surprised. Those that thought they were doing well were not! Those that thought they were not doing well were doing better than they thought!

Origen (a.d. 185 - 254)

Origen was born in Alexandria and was a student of Clement of Alexandria. He was a leading teacher of theology and philosophy at the influential catechetical school of Alexandria. Desiring to harmonize the New Testament with Greek philosophy, he very effectively introduced and spread an allegorical method of interpreting the Scriptures. However, "Allegories are an invitation to invent..." To be accurate with allegory, one must always interpret an allegory in terms of the literal; not visa versa.

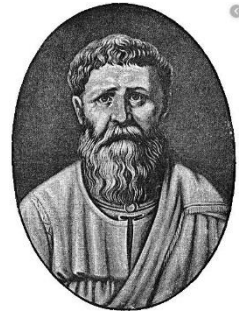


“Replacement Theology”

Church theologians began to develop the idea that the Israelites had permanently forfeited all their covenants by rejecting Jesus as the Messiah. This view taught that these covenants now belong to the Church, and that it is now the “true Israel” forever. This view also taught that the Jews will never again have any future as a Divinely chosen people, and that the Messiah will never establish a literal Messianic Kingdom on earth that was promised to them.

Augustine (a.d. 354-425)

By the time of Augustine, the famous Bishop of Hippo (Algeria), Origen’s system of interpretation dominated the Christian scene. Augustine wrote 22 influential books, 10 of which are outspoken against pantheism (multiple gods); 12 trace a theological philosophy of history. It was Augustine who systematized the allegorically based teaching into a cohesive theology that would dominate the Church for over 1000 years. Even the Reformation failed to challenge his allegorically based eschatology.



Amillennialism

“No millennium.” The Amillennialist does not believe that Christ will personally reign on the earth for a literal thousand years. They define an allegorical millennium extending from His Resurrection to the time of His Second Coming on the clouds at the end of this age. There will be one general resurrection of both believers and unbelievers from throughout history. At this same time the Last Judgment of all mankind will take place.

Postmillennialism

“After the millennium.” This view says that Christ will come only after the Spirit-empowered Church has established God’s kingdom on the earth by progressively subduing the world and taking dominion over it. A variation of this held that we were already in the millennium: “... things were getting “better and better...” This view evaporated in the 20th century, which was the most violent century in human history and morals continued to deteriorate. It would appear that “Satan’s chain is too long...”

From Augustine to Auschwitz

Both Amillennialism and “Replacement Theology” denies the specificity and durability of the Davidic Covenant and makes God’s explicit promises suspect and have historically led to anti-Semitism...and will again... We are starting to see the rise again. We cannot begin to understand the background that a Jew sees of all history until we understand the abuse of the Jew under the banner of Christianity.

Again: Why is this so important? 1) Because of the summary of the purpose, tragedy, and triumph of all history (Mt 23:37-39) and 2) Because the Davidic Covenant impacts each

of us more than we can imagine! Our personal destinies are all wrapped up in the Davidic Kingdom that's on our near horizon!

Romans 9:6-13

Paul will now delve into one of the thorniest briar patches of all: Divine Election and Predestination vs. Free Will.

And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow.

And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian. And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way. Luke 4:24-30

Jesus is talking about election, of God being able to choose who He likes. Why were they that upset? Each example was a Gentile! And the Jews thought they were the chosen people. Paul will also deal with the issue: If we have the assurance of these unconditional covenants, what about Israel? Has God kept His word to them?

Read Romans 9 Verse 6

“Not all”: it doesn't say not “any” are Israel. Who is an “Israelite”? This is a key question in Israel today! The majority in Israel are agnostic humanists. Paul now delves into the distinction between physical and spiritual Israel.

Israel mentioned 75 times in 73 verses in the New Testament and always referring to the Nation, never the Church. It is important to discern their “mutual exclusiveness”: the often-overlooked Greek kai (“and”) in **Galatians 6:16** includes, yet distinguishes, the “Israel of God.”

Read Romans 9 Verse 7

By natural birth all of Abraham's children, Midianites, Ishmaelites and Edomites would be included as seed of Abraham.

Esau, who forfeits his inheritance, and to deliberately offend his parents took wives, including Nebajoth's sister. His descendants, Ishamel's, and Keturah's all intermarried thus no tribal distinctions were maintained.

Paul's Example #1: Isaac—not Ishmael

Isaac was the intentional product of a miracle (Gen 17:15-21) that he (Isaac) had nothing to do with. He was deemed special before he was born. Paul is drawing an analogy about the sovereignty of God for you and me. So was Israel (Exodus). So was the Church (Acts 2).

Read Romans 9 Verse 8

Neither Ishmael, nor the sons of Hagar nor Keturah, inherited the promises. Only Isaac, the son of the promise, did inherit. Physical descendancy from Abraham was not enough. *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit* (Jn 3:6).

Has Word of God Failed?

Spiritual Israel has never included all of physical Israel (Mt 3:9; Jn 3:3-6). This is another staggering blow to the pretensions of those who adhere to the “universal fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man.” Jesus even clarified the “fatherhood” of the Pharisees! (Jn 8:44).

Read Romans 9 Verse 9

Quoting Gen 17:21; 18:10, 14; 21:2. This was announced when she and Abram received their new names: The heh (an abbreviation for the Holy Spirit) was added: Abraham and Sarah.

Read Romans 9 Verse 10

Same conception, diverse destinies...

Read Romans 9 Verse 11

Paul’s Example #2: Rebecca’s Twins (Gen 25:20-26)



Isaac was 60 years old; married 20 years. [I suspect that Isaac was 33 when he was “offered” in Gen 22; he was 40 in Gen 24.]

The second twin was born grasping Esau’s heel. In view of the oracle the parents had received (**Gen 25:23**) it seemed appropriate to give this child a name that would preserve the memory of this event. But as with Esau, so Jacob’s name would take on a different sense later in life as his deceptive nature became evident. So the twins’ births had great significance for later events in their lives.

Read Romans 9 Verse 12

This is the prophecy from Gen 25:23. The circumstances connected with his birth foreshadowed the enmity which afterwards continued between the twin brothers and the nations they founded (Gen 25:22, 23, 26).

The Doctrine of Election

The paradox of election dissolves when one recognizes that God is outside this physical dimension called time: “God alone knows the end from the beginning.” (Isa 46:10; cf. Isa 55:8). He can look ahead and see what history is going to be.

The Second Before the First

- Not Cain, but Abel (and Seth)
- Not Japheth but Shem
- Not Ishmael but Isaac
- Not Esau but Jacob
- Not Manasseh but Ephraim
- Not Aaron but Moses
- Not Eliab but David
- Not the Old Covenant but the New
- Not the 1st Adam but the Last Adam



Inheritance is not automatic... It involves the Father's choice...

Diverse Destinies

The circumstances connected with his birth foreshadowed the enmity which afterwards continued between the brothers and the nations they founded. In the process of time Jacob, following his natural bent, became a shepherd, while Esau, a “son of the desert,” devoted himself to the perilous and toilsome life of a huntsman.

Forfeit of His Inheritance

On one occasion, on returning from the chase, urged by the cravings of hunger, Esau sold his birthright to his brother, Jacob, who thereby obtained the covenant blessing (Gen 27:28, 29, 36; Heb 12:16, 17).

Esau afterwards tried to regain what he had recklessly parted with but was defeated in his attempts through the stealth of his brother (Gen 27:4, 34, 38).

At the age of 40, to the great grief of his parents, Esau married two Canaanite maidens, Judith, and Bashemath (Gen 26:34, 35). When Jacob was sent away to Padanaram, Esau tried to conciliate his parents by marrying his cousin Mahalath, the daughter of Ishmael (Gen 28:8, 9). This led him to cast in his lot with the Ishmaelite tribes and ultimately settling in that region.

After some thirty years, Jacob returned to Canaan, and was reconciled to Esau, who went forth to meet him (Gen 33:4). Twenty years after this, when Isaac their father died, the two brothers met, probably for the last time, beside his grave (Gen 35:29).

Edom

Edom was known as Idumea (Isa 34:5, 6; Ezek 35:15). The “Land of Edom” was mountainous (Gen 36:16 Ob 1:8, 9, 19, 21). It extended from the head of the Gulf of Akabah, to the foot of the Dead Sea (1Kgs 9:26).

Herod was Idumean, not a Jew. A descendent of Esau, he was an enemy of the Jews. Recall the Magi’s slur: “Where is he who was born king of the Jews?” (Mt 2:2).

At the time of the Exodus, Edomites rudely refused permission to the Israelites to pass through their land (Num 20:14-21) and ever afterwards maintained an attitude of hostility toward them. They were conquered by David (2Sam 8:14; 1Kgs 9:26) and afterwards by Amaziah (2 Chr 25:11, 12), but they regained again their independence, and in later years, during the decline of the Jewish kingdom, made war against Israel (2 Kgs 16:6).

They took part with the Chaldeans when Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem, and afterwards they invaded and held possession of the south of Palestine as far as Hebron. At length, however, Edom fell under the growing Chaldean power (Jer 27:3, 6). Esau now permanently left Canaan, and established himself as a powerful and wealthy chief in the land of Edom (= “Red”).

There are many prophecies concerning Edom which have been remarkably fulfilled (Isa 34:5,6; Jer 49:7-18; Ezek 25:13; 35:1-15; Joel 3:19; Amos 1:11; Obad; Mal 1:3,4). After an existence as a people for over 1700 years, they have utterly disappeared—even their language is forgotten forever.

The present desolate condition of that land is a standing testimony to the inspiration of these prophecies. Edom contains the rock-hewn city of Bozrah (Hebrew), or Petra (Greek);Cf. 2 Kgs 14:7.

Read Romans 9 Verse 13

Esau disparaged the birthright, as the spiritual father of a subsequent progeny. The mystery is not why God hated Esau, but why God loved Jacob! This is a quotation from the last book in the Old Testament (Mal 1:2-3). This statement was not made until the two boys had lived their lives and two nations had come from them, which was about 2000 years later, and much history had been made.

The alternative sons—Isaac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau—portray, consistently, typologically, the tension and conflict between faith and works; grace vs. the law. To be true Israel, one needs to hold to the faith of Abraham There are two fatherhoods: Jn 1:11-13 vs Jn 8:36-44.

The Doctrine of Election

- Example #1: Isaac — Intentional miracle (Gen 17:15-21).
- Example #2: Rebecca’s twins — Fought before birth (Gen 25:23); Esau lost his inheritance; Two nations; the elder will serve the younger
- Example #3: Moses and Pharaoh (Rom 9:14-18).

Next Session

- † Complete our study of Romans 9:14-33.
- † Esau and others lost their inheritance: can you lose yours?
- † If Israel had assurances, how did they fail?
- † Can we?

Questions:

The four covenants with Israel are _____ (Page 1).

The purpose of all History is for Jesus to return and set up his _____ (Page 1).

What is The Missing Key of "Systematic Theology"? _____ (Page 2).

In Luke 19:42 Jesus declares _____ on Israel for not know when he would return (Page 3).

Early church writer Origen taught to interpret scripture as _____ (Page 4).

Replacement theology teaches that the church replaced _____ in scripture (Page 5).

The Amillennialist does not believe that Christ will personally reign on the earth for a literal thousand years (Page 5). **TRUE** **FALSE**

God alone knows the end from the _____ (Page 8).

Bible People Pairs



Try to untangle well-known Bible pairs of people in this unusual Bible word game. Two names have been woven together in each line. Can you separate them? You do not need to change the order of any of the letters.

ADEAVEM

_____ SIPLAUASL

GODALVIAITDH

_____ DESLAIMSLOANH

BROUTAHZ

_____ CABAIELN

JESACAOUB

_____ ABSRAAHRAMAH

Quiz: unconditional, kingdom, israelology, blindness, allegory, israel, true, beginning
Bible People Pairs: Adam & Eve, Goliath & David, Boaz & Ruth, Jacob and Esau, Silas & Paul,
 Delliath & Samson, Cain & Abel, Abraham & Sarah