



A Broken Heart for the Lost

ROMANS 9: 1 – 5

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SERIES: ROMANS: THE ROAD TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

Romans 9: 1 - 5

¹ I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, ² that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed, *separated* from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh, ⁴ who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the *temple* service and the promises, ⁵ whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Heart Broken for Kinsmen

Vv. 1 – 3

- ▶ Notice that Paul calls on Divine witnesses.
 - ▶ Not lying, telling the truth in Christ.
 - ▶ Conscience testifying in the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ His great sorrow and unceasing grief
 - ▶ A most terrible grief and constant heartbreak.
- ▶ I could wish myself accursed from Christ.
 - ▶ The end of chapter 8 makes it clear that this was impossible.
 - ▶ Emotionally speaking he would trade hell for the salvation of the people of Israel.
 - ▶ Paul is speaking emotionally and not theologically.

The Israelite Advantage

Vv. 4 – 5

- ▶ Called Israelites here and not Jews?
- ▶ Israel adopted as sons (cf. 8: 23).
- ▶ The glory (Shekinah as in the cloud and temple)
- ▶ The covenants – which ones?
- ▶ The giving of the Law including it's keeping.
- ▶ The temple service in the priestly ministry.
- ▶ The promises made throughout Israel's history.
- ▶ Christ's human lineage from Israel.

Advantage Rejected.

- ▶ Despite all the advantage they rejected their Messiah when He came.
- ▶ All advantage promoted pride and attempted works righteousness.
- ▶ The Deity of Christ emphasized.
 - ▶ Since Christ is identified according to flesh it makes sense to recognize His Deity here as well.
 - ▶ Christ is recognized as of equal essence to the Father, He is over all and God blessed forever.
 - ▶ Amen – so be it.

Conclusion



- ▶ Is our hearts broken over our fellow countrymen who have had great advantages in our nation but still reject Christ as Savior and Lord?
- ▶ What sacrifice would we really be willing to make for a soul to be saved?
- ▶ How can a people like Israel and America have so many advantages to believe in faith and yet still reject God's free offer of salvation?