

Bible Study of Romans
Romans 9:6-13

1. The question that remains in the background of these chapters (9-11) is “How can we trust God Who seemed to have broken His promise to Abraham to bless His seed? Has God failed His promise since most of Israel is rejected at the time of Paul?”
 - a. What is Paul’s reasoning from Scripture that God is not unfaithful to His own people? In others, how does he specifically back up his assertion that God is trustworthy with Scripture?
 - b. What applications do these verses have for us as a congregation? What errors are often made with regard to our ‘seed?’

2. In vs. 10-12 Paul used another distinction found in the family of another patriarch, Jacob and his wife Rebecca. First Paul showed it was not ‘all Israel’, then not ‘all Abraham’s’ and now he narrowed it even further, ‘not all Isaac’s.’ What do these verses add to our understanding of God’s election of sinners to salvation?
 - a. If you were called by God, why were you called? How does this function in your heart?
 - b. The objection against the teaching of vs. 11 (and elsewhere) is that God’s sovereign electing is a discouraging truth for a seeker or even a discourager for the zeal of evangelism. Are those legitimate objections and if not, why not?
 - c. God spoke that ‘the elder shall serve the younger.’ How are we to understand this for it does not appear in the history that Esau ever served Jacob?
 - d. Does the teaching of vs. 11 support the view of many of our forefathers that children that die in the womb or as very young infants will be found in heaven because of God’s gracious love because though they participated in the original sin (Romans 5), they did not do any actual sin?

3. How are we to understand God’s ‘hatred’ of Esau when He commands us not to hate our enemies but love them (Matt. 5:44)?