

GOD'S MERCY ON IDOLATROUS ISRAEL.

Rom 9:14-16; Feb 16, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Review — Last week in vv. 6-13 we saw how Paul begins to demonstrate that God is faithful to His promises to Israel despite their lack of faith in Him. Paul begins to explain how God has kept and will keep His word to Israel with a cryptic statement, "For they are not all Israel who are of Israel," (9:6b). There are two things from last week that are vitally important for understanding the rest of this chapter:

Preview

- Establishment of the Nation—>Exodus
- Rom 9:14-29 should be divided in the following way: I. vv. 14-18 — God's Mercy on Israel in the Exodus [A. Vv. 14-16 — God's mercy displayed in the sin of an idolatrous nation; & B. vv. 17-18 — God's mercy displayed in the sin of one man]. II. Vv. 19-24 — God's merciful activity illustrated by the potter and the clay. III. vv. 25-29 — God's merciful activity toward Israel proven by the prophecies of the OT.

In the passages that speak of God's mercy in the Exodus (vv. 14-18) we find two events, both of which revolve around a sinful people and a sinful person — (1) In vv. 14-16, the Nation of Israel is that sinful people; (2) In vv. 17-18, Pharaoh is that sinful person.

We also find in vv. 14-18, that these events are focused on God's mercy — (1) In vv. 14-16, God displays his mercy on Israel despite their own sinfulness. (2) In vv. 17-18, the sinfulness of Pharaoh plays apart in God's mercy to the Nation of Israel. (3) God used both mercy and hardening to establish the Nation of Israel.

Finally, we find God's freedom in having mercy — (1) God's mercy does not mean that he ignores sin—in fact, God's mercy is precisely because of sin. (2) God's mercy can even be seen despite the sinful activities of groups of people and individuals.

Now admittedly there are some sticky statements that we will have to deal with in vv. 14-29 (v. 15, 18, 22-23, 24).

I.THE STRUCTURE OF THESE VERSES (14-18): (A.) The Divisions — (1) v. 14, (2) vv. 15-16, (3) vv. 17-18; **(B.)** v. 14, Looks Back & forward; **(C.)** vv. 15-16 and vv. 17-18.

II.GOD'S IS RIGHTEOUS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAEL. (v. 14)

A. It Draws a Conclusion From vv. 6-13.

1. What Are We To Conclude About God's Establishment of the Nation of Israel?
2. Was God Just To Establish the Nation of Israel? YES!
3. God Was Also Just in Accomplishing the Establishment of Israel According to Election Which Was in Line With his Plan.

B. It Points Forward to God's Activity in vv. 15-29.

	v. 15-16	v. 17-18
A Statement from God	v. 15	v. 17
Conclusion	v. 16	v. 18

III.GOD'S MERCY ON REBELLIOUS STIFF-NECKED ISRAEL. (vv. 15-16)

A. The Statement From God — a Quotation From the OT — Ex 33:19. 15

1. This Quotation Is Taken From the Golden Calf Incident at Mt. Sinai.
2. Paul Has Prepared his Readers for This (Rom 9:3 & Ex 32:32).
3. The Significance of the Golden Calf Incident.

- a) Events Before (Chps. 15-31).
- b) 32:1 — We See Three Things: (1) Moses Delayed, (2) People Request, (3) Reason for Request.
- c) 32:2-5 — Preparations Are Made for False Worship (Idolatry).
- d) 32:6 — the Description of Israel Idolatry.
- e) 32:7-10 — the Wrath / Anger of the LORD Against Israel. ("My People" Vs. "Your People")¹
- f) 32:11-13 — Moses' Pleading With the LORD.
- g) 32:14 — the LORD Changes his Mind About Destroying Israel.
- h) 32:15-18 — Moses and Joshua Return to the People.
- i) 32:19-20 — Moses' Anger.
- j) 32:21-24 — Moses Seeks Answers From Aaron.

- k) 32:25-29 — Moses Regains Control of Israel.
- l) 32:30-32 — Moses Intercedes Before the LORD on Behalf of Israel.
- m) 32:33-33:3 — the LORD Removes his Presence From the Nation.
- n) 33:4-6 — the Nation Mourns.
- o) 33:7-11 — the LORD's Provision To Be With Moses.
- p) 33:12-17 — Moses Asks the LORD To Reconsider Not Going With the Nation.
- q) 33:18-34:7 — the Fulfillment of Moses First Request: a Deeper Relationship With the LORD.

4. How This Relates to Rom 9:15.

B. The Clarification of This Statement. 16

IV. THE CONCLUSION.

¹ Sixteen from Ex 3-23 "my people" refers to "the LORD's people" (3:7, 10; 5:1; 6:7; 7:4, 16; 8:1, 20, 21, 22, 23; 9:1, 13, 17; 10:3, 4; 22:25). Four times "your people" refers to "the LORD's people" (5:23; 15:16; 22:28; 23:11).