

Romans

SERMON SERIES

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ¹⁹For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ²⁰nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Galatians 3:10

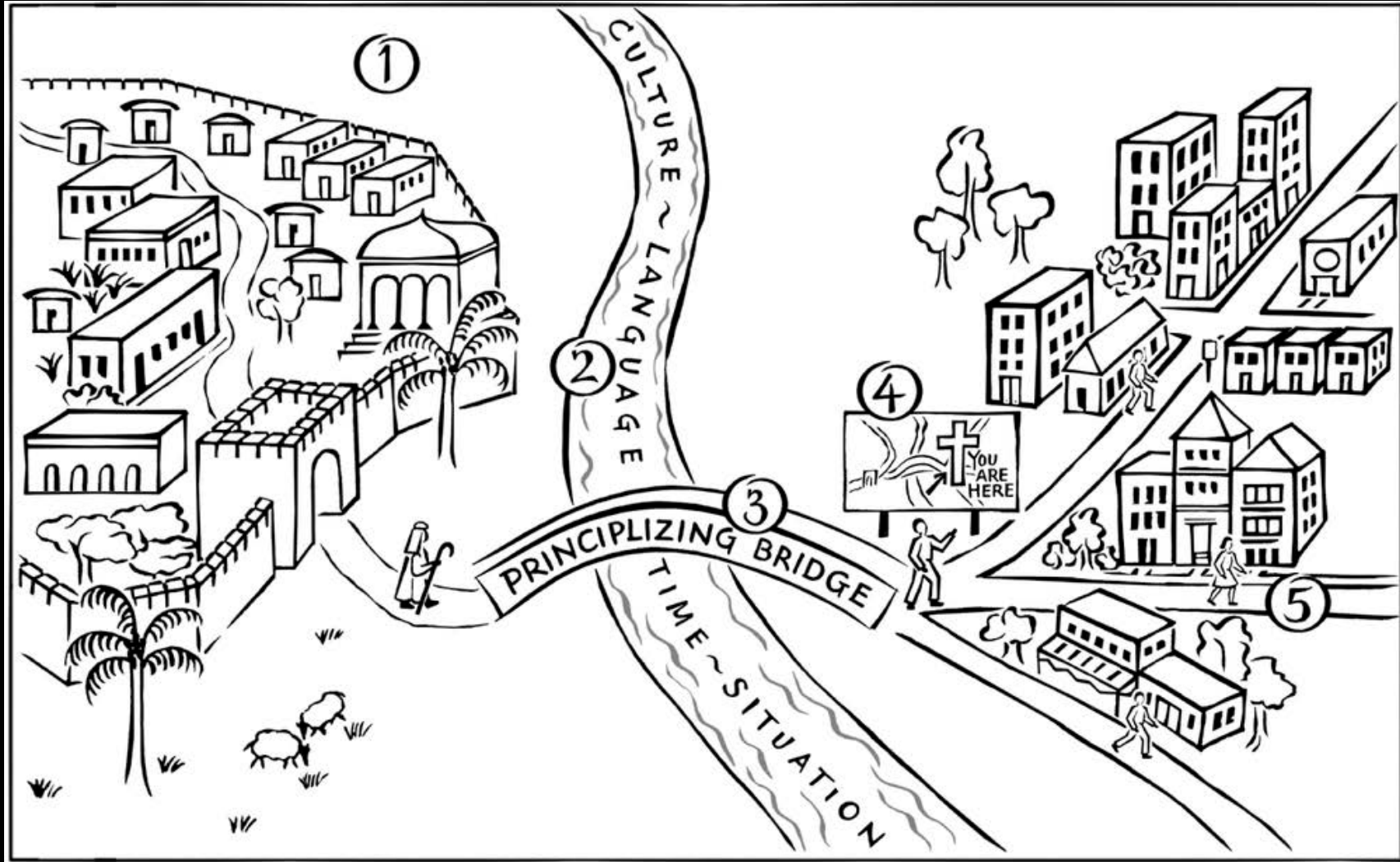
9 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— ²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

"But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ²and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but ³"through Isaac shall your offspring be named." ⁴This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁵For this is what the promise said: "About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son." ⁶And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our Godfather Isaac, ⁷though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad— in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because

This book is not written *to* you!

This book is not written to you!

But it is written *for* you!



Romans



THE GOOD NEWS
CHAPTERS 1-3

Romans 1:16-17

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Romans



HOW DO WE
LIVE THEN?

CHAPTERS 4-8

Faith in the Ring: Anxiety

With God

- God is for us
- God is in this with us
- If God gave his Son for me, I can trust him with all of my needs
- I'm not defined by my anxiety, but by what God says is true
- God is in control & the outcomes are known: I'm ok, I'm loved, I'm secure, I matter to God, it will work out
- I feel secure in the storm

Without God

- It all depends on me – I have to fix it, figure it out, make it happen
 - *Will I be enough?*
 - *Will my needs be met?*
- Grasping for solutions & control, desperate for relief
- I'm on my own and the outcomes are unknown: Am I ok? Loved? Will it work out?
 - I feel insecure, hopeless, overwhelmed

Romans



DID GOD'S
PLAN FAIL?

Romans



CHAPTERS 9-11







Paul's Big Point in Romans 9:

Israel doesn't always mean Israel

Psalm 130

Though great our sins and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow
(All their sin and sorrow)



Paul's Big Point in Romans 9:

Israel doesn't always mean Israel...
But sometimes it does.

Paul's selection of the term "Israelites" to head this list is significant. For, in contrast to the politically and nationally oriented title "Jew," "Israelite" connotes the special religious position of members of the Jewish people. It is therefore no accident that Paul in Rom. 9-11 generally abandons the word "Jew," which has figured so prominently in chaps. 1-8, in favor of the terms "Israelites" and "Israel." Paul is no longer looking at the Jews from the perspective of the Gentiles and in their relationship to the Gentiles but from the perspective of salvation history and in their relationship to God and his promises to them.

The appellation “Israelites,” then, is no mere political or nationalistic designation but a religiously significant and honorific title. And despite the refusal of most of the Israelites to accept God’s gift of salvation in Christ, this title has not been revoked. Here in a nutshell is the tension that Paul seeks to resolve in these chapters.⁶³

Moo, D. J. (2018). *The Letter to the Romans*. (N. B. Stonehouse, F. F. Bruce, G. D. Fee, & J. B. Green, Eds.) (Second Edition, pp. 581–582). Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Paul's Big Point in Romans 9:

Israel doesn't always mean Israel...
But sometimes it does.

Context is King!!!

This Week's Sermon:
Accursed
Romans 9:1-5

Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

Is the Nation of Israel Blessed by God?



Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ – I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit – ² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

4 In vv. 4–5, Paul enumerates some of the divine privileges given to his “kindred according to the flesh.” This suggests that Paul’s willingness to sacrifice himself for unbelieving Israel (v. 3) arises not only from love for his own people but also from love for the truthfulness of God’s word. Paul’s concern is not just that so many of his own people seem doomed to hell; it is also that their fate seems incompatible with the many privileges and promises granted to Israel by God in the OT. Thus Paul’s listing of Israel’s blessings prepares the way for the question that is central to this whole section: Has God’s word failed (v. 6a)? But, more than this, it also suggests, albeit very indirectly, one of the answers to that question.

For the blessings Paul lists relate not only to Israel's glorious past that she has forever forfeited; some of them, at least, relate also to Israel's present state and are pregnant with potential future significance (especially "adoption," "promises," and "patriarchs"). While, then, Paul's inventory of Jewish privileges has as its main purpose the explanation of his willingness to sacrifice himself for his people, it also hints at why that sacrifice will not be necessary: God "has not rejected his people whom he foreknew" (11:2).

Moo, D. J. (2018). *The Letter to the Romans*. (N. B. Stonehouse, F. F. Bruce, G. D. Fee, & J. B. Green, Eds.) (Second Edition, p. 580). Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

The Blessings of Israel

Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ – I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit – ² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

Cross my heart!

Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

Matthew 5:33-37

³³ “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ ³⁴ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶ And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷ Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.

**I wish I could experience hell, so they don't
have to**

Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

“He is willing to experience the ultimate anathema, the final act of excommunication from God himself, for his brethren. He is saying, ‘If I could suffer damnation instead of my kinsmen according to the flesh, I would do it.’ But of course, Paul could not make atonement for anybody.”

Sproul, R. C. (1994). *The Gospel of God: An Exposition of Romans* (p. 162). Great Britain: Christian Focus Publications.



Exodus 32:30-32

³⁰ The next day Moses said to the people, “You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.” ³¹ So Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. ³² But now, if you will forgive their sin – but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.”

1 Peter 2:9-10

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

I wish I could experience hell, so ~~they~~ my
persecutors don't have to

2 Corinthians 11:23-25

²³ Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴ Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned.

No one

No one, anywhere,

No one, anywhere, at any point

**No one, anywhere, at any point is beyond the
reach of the Gospel!**

**When you don't believe the power of the
gospel – you miss out on the opportunity to
see God raise dead people to life.**

Gospel Application

No one, anywhere, at any point, is beyond the reach of the Gospel.