

Developing A Heart Like God's (Romans 9:1-13)

Pastor Deric

(1) 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.

(6) But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, (7) and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." (8) This 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. (9) For this is what the promise said: "About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son." (10) And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, (11) though 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 of him who calls-- (12) she was told, "The older will serve the younger." (13) As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." [Romans 9:1-13 ESV]

Practical Application

1. Review (Rom. 8:31-39): God is for you, and nothing or no one can stand against you. You were created to conquer! Jesus Christ came for you, lived for you, died for you, was raised for you, ascended into heaven for you, is praying for you right now, and will one day bring you home. No one loves you like Jesus. Nothing can separate you from God's great agape love. His love is never stopping, never giving up, un-breaking, always and forever love. You have nothing to fear. God's perfect love cast out fear. You are more than a conqueror because of the love and power of Jesus Christ!
2. Your faith in Christ should impact the way you speak to everyone. Speak the truth in Christ in every situation by the power of the Holy Spirit and with a clear conscience. You will speak from the overflow of what's in your heart. Develop a truthful heart like God's.
3. We, as Christians, ought to be the most heartfelt, honest, integrious, and sincere people in the world. Like Jesus.
4. The heart of a Spirit-filled and mature Christian is sorrowfully broken for lost people who do not know God. Like the heart of Jesus.
5. Are you passionate about people coming to know Jesus Christ? Do you pray and long for people to be saved? Do you share the good news of Jesus and lead others to hear the good news of Jesus as a regular part of your life rhythms?
6. Do you have a heart for friends, family, and the people of the world to become a part of God's family? The fatherly heart of God wants the people of the world to be a part of His forever family. Do you have a fatherly/ motherly heart?

7. Does your heart reflect the loving, seeking, intentional, compassionate, and sacrificial heart of God? If not, why not?
8. A proper understanding of God will result in having a loving heart like His. We can develop this kind of heart by growing in our relationship with God today.
9. Do you love Jewish people and the peoples of the world? Jesus does, and so should we.
10. When you put your faith in Jesus Christ, you become a “True Jew” “Spiritual Jew” and inherit all the promises and blessings of God. You are adopted into God’s family, will be glorified forever, have an unbreakable covenantal relationship with God that will last into eternity, have God’s law written on your heart, and are freed to worship Him from the heart. Recognize how blessed you are this morning! Rejoice in Christ today!
11. God’s Word always comes true and will never fail. All of His promises are yes and amen in Jesus Christ.
12. God elects Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to be the chosen line to bring Jesus into this world. This election is corporate. This election is done in order for them to fulfill God’s greatest purpose on earth (sending Jesus).
13. The promised Savior (Messiah) comes through the line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (the patriarchs). Jesus fulfills that promise and enables us to become children of Abraham by faith. Jesus is greater than all the patriarchs. Their lives point forward to Him. The Bible is all about Jesus.
14. Temporal positions and purposes of service that God calls people to will vary. But God’s eternal salvific blessing comes through faith in Jesus Christ, and the service He rendered.
15. God loves the Israelites (Jacob’s descendants), the Edomites (Esau’s descendants), and the peoples of the world (all Gentiles) so much that He sent His Son Jesus Christ to live for them, die for them, and rise for them.
16. God’s love for Jacob is special and unique because he and his line are chosen to bring the Messiah. God mercifully and lovingly gave Jacob/Israel this one-of-a-kind calling. This really is a special grace from God.
17. God loves you and wants you to be saved, to grow as a Christian, to devote yourself to His mission, and to faithfully fulfill His purpose for your life. Surrender to Jesus, serve Jesus, and develop a heart like Jesus today.

Announcements

- Feb. 18 Women’s Event: Today after worship. Prayer Board Party - A potluck for all women of the church – An opportunity to organize and plan for 2024. Combines crafting, prayer and fellowship. See Laura Hammac
- Feb 12: Starting Monday February 12 “The Pursuit” – Men’s small groups will meet M, T, Thurs & Sun (Led by: Brad Vick, Rip Coker, DeWayne Osborn and Clay Hammac). Contact Brad Vick – (205) 396-0153 – bwvick@yahoo.com
- March 3, Food Pantry Tour. Stop by anytime between 12:30pm and 3:30pm.