



So Close...Yet So Far

Romans 9:4-5

INTRODUCTION:

- I. God's Word has not _____ (Rom. 9:6; Jn. 1:11; Num. 23:19; Josh. 21:45; 23:14; 2 Cor. 1:20)
- II. God's purpose for Israel has _____
 - A. God's sovereign _____ (Rom. 9:11, 15, 16, 18, 23; Eph. 1:4)
 - B. God's _____ plan for Israel (Rom. 11:1, 2, 25, 26; Zech. 12:10; Matt. 23:39)
- III. God's judgment of Israel is not _____ (Jer. 30:7; Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:21; Rev. 6-19)
- IV. God's _____ to Israel were extraordinary
 - A. The most privileged nation in history _____ the greatest gift God ever gave them
 - B. Spiritual privilege does not _____ spiritual salvation

MESSAGE:

- I. They Received _____ (v. 4a) [Ex. 4:22; Hos. 11:1; Rom. 9:6; Deut. 7:6]

- II. They Experienced God's _____ (v. 4b) [Ex. 24:16; 40:34; 1 Kgs. 8:11; Jn. 1:14]
- III. They Received the _____ (v. 4c) [Gen. 12:2-3; Jer. 31:33; Rom. 11:29]
- IV. They Received God's _____ (v. 4d) [Deut. 4:8; Rom. 3:1, 2]
- V. They Received True _____ (v. 4e) [Lev. 17:11; Heb. 10:1]
- VI. They Received The _____ (v. 4f) [Isa. 7:14; Mic. 5:2; Isa. 53; Psa. 16; Acts 13:32-33]
- VII. They Received The _____ (v. 5a) [Ex. 3:6; Matt. 22:32; Acts 3:13; Jn. 1:12]
- VIII. They Received The _____ (v. 5b) [Jn. 1:14; 1:11]

TAKE HOME:

- Am I trusting in Christ—or am I trusting in the spiritual _____ I've had around Christ?
- Have the spiritual privileges God has given me _____ greater faith, obedience, worship, and love for Christ?
- Is there any area of my life where I know the _____ of God's Word—but I am refusing to obey it?

Application Questions

James 1:22 says, *"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."* These questions are designed to help you apply today's message in your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others.

1. Am I trusting Christ for salvation, or am I relying on my spiritual privileges (church background, knowledge, family heritage) instead of Him? (Rom. 10:9; Eph. 2:8–9; Jn. 1:12)
2. Have the spiritual privileges God has given me produced real repentance and obedience, or only familiarity and religious routine? (Jas. 1:22; 1 Sam. 15:22; Matt. 7:21)
3. Do I pursue God's presence and glory for worship and holiness, or do I chase "experiences" while neglecting faithful submission to His Word? (Ex. 40:34; Jn. 1:14; 2 Cor. 3:18)
4. Am I treating God's promises as information to know, or as truth that moves me to faith in the Promised One, Jesus? (2 Cor. 1:20; Acts 13:32–33; Rom. 11:29)
5. Is the Word of God merely in my hands (and apps), or is it actually ruling my heart, shaping my choices this week? (Rom. 3:2; Deut. 4:8; Ps. 119:11)
6. Do I participate in corporate worship externally while my heart stays distant, or am I genuinely drawing near to God through Christ? (Heb. 10:1; Lev. 17:11; Jn. 4:23–24)
7. Am I leaning on a godly heritage (parents, grandparents, past faithfulness) instead of personally repenting and believing the gospel myself? (Jn. 1:12; Ezek. 18:20; Gal. 2:16)
8. Since Israel could have Christ "right in front of them" and still reject Him, what specific ways might I be resisting Jesus' lordship in my life right now? (Jn. 1:11; Luke 9:23; Rom. 12:1)

"God's promises concerning future Israel retain their validity, and Scripture maintains important distinctions between Israel and the New Testament church."

- MacArthur and Mayhue, *Christ's Prophetic Plans*