

God's Righteous Choices, Romans 9-11
God's Sovereign Choice: Romans 9:19-29

I. How can God hold people responsible (9:19)?

Paul anticipated this question from his readers.

1. Why does God find fault?
2. Who can resist God's will?

II. There is a good answer (9:20-29).

A. No one has a right to challenge God (9:20).

B. Illustration: The potter and the clay (9:21).

1. A potter will use the same clay to make vessels of honor and vessels of dishonor.
2. The clay has no right to complain.

C. Paul interprets the illustration (9:22-26).

1. Paul gives two reasons for God making vessels of dishonor.
 - a. He desires to demonstrate His wrath.
 - b. He makes His power known.
2. God patiently endures vessels of dishonor.
 - a. It takes patience to allow evil doers to live in sin.
 - b. It takes patience not to send vessels of wrath to destruction immediately.
3. God has a redemptive purpose in creating vessels of dishonor.
 - a. God shows the riches of His glory on vessels of mercy (9:23).
 - b. God shows mercy to save Jews and Gentiles (9:24-26).

III. God's choice includes a Jewish remnant (9:27-28).

Scripture indicates that God will always have a Jewish segment that believes.

1. By God's choice a minority of Jews will be saved (9:27).
2. The remnant was required for Israel's spiritual posterity (9:28-29).