

God's Sovereign Choice - II

Romans 9:19-33

Introduction

I The Sovereignty Of God Questioned

- A. The **questions** of man
 1. "Then why does God still blame us?" - Ezek 18:32
 2. "Who can resist His will?"
- B. The **response** of Paul
 1. "Who are you to talk back to God?" - Is 45:9
 2. "Who are you to critique God's work?" - Job 38-41
 - a. "Why did you make me like this?" - Job 40:1

II The Sovereignty Of God Demonstrated

- A. He is the **Potter**, we are the **clay** - Jer 18:1-6
 1. He has the right to make out of the same lump:
 - a. Pottery for **noble** purposes
 - b. Pottery for **common** purposes - 2 Tim 2:20-21
- B. He is God and we are not
 1. He chose to show his wrath and power by: - 2 Pet 3:9
 - a. Bearing with great patience the objects of His **wrath**
 1. Which were prepared for **destruction** - Prov 16:4
 2. He can choose to show the **riches** of His glory by:
 - a. Making known His glory to the objects of His **mercy**
 1. Whom he prepared in advance for **Glory**
 - a. Even us whom he called; Jew and Gentile
 1. Affirmed by the prophet Hosea -1 Pt 2:10
 2. Affirmed by the prophet Isaiah - Is 10:22

III The Sovereignty Of God Defended

- A. The **Gentiles** who did not pursue righteousness:
 1. Have obtained a righteous standing by **faith** - Rom 1:17
- B. The **Jews** who pursued a law of righteousness
 1. Have not attained it because:
 - a. They pursued it as if it were by **works** - Gal 5:4
 2. They **stumbled** over the "stumbling stone"
 - 1 Cor 1:22-23; 1 Pet 2:6-8

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time to consider the following questions:

1. Have you ever blamed God for something that happened in your life? Was He really at fault? Why or why not? Why do you think we have a tendency to blame God for our problems?
2. Do you tend to think of God as existing for your benefit, or you existing for His benefit? How does your conclusion impact your life, choices, priorities and attitudes?
3. What are God's sovereign rights over mankind? How does Paul illustrate God's rights over all men in verse 21? What has been your response to the a) mercy and b) authority of God?
4. What has the Potter been doing in your life lately? Is there an area in your life where you need to recognize and yield to God's sovereignty as the Divine Potter? How have you been responding? How should you respond?
5. There are two approaches to seeking salvation as outlined in verses 30-33. What are they? What are the pluses and minuses of each approach? Which most closely reflects your life?
6. Take a moment to surrender your life back to the Divine Potter. Ask Him to give you a yielded and humble heart that above all else seeks to bring Him glory, honor and praise!

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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