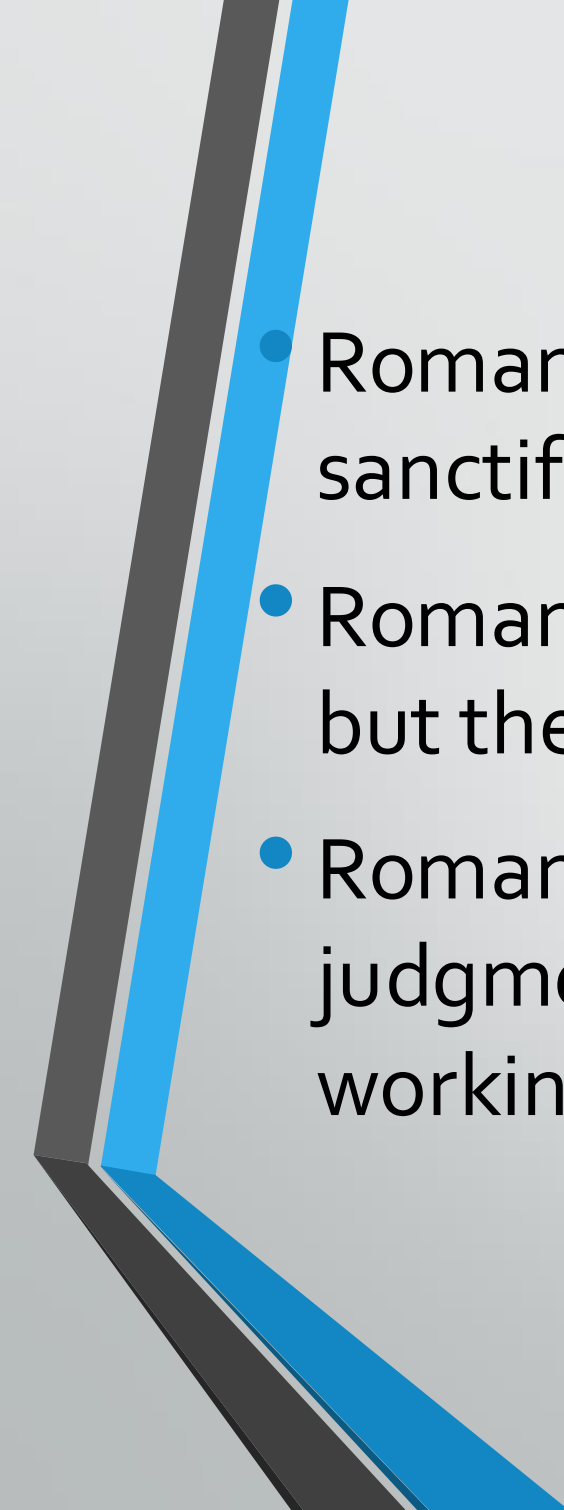




ROMANS 9:1-29

- Review of Romans 1-8
- The book of Romans was written by Paul to the church in Rome around 55 a.d.
- The theme of the book is Rom 1:17: “The Righteous shall live by faith”
- Romans chapter 1 talks about the wrath of God due to the sins of humans.
- Romans chapter 2 talks about no one is righteous (all have sinned).

- Romans chapter 3 talks about no one can be justified before God by their own works. We can have the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus.
- Romans chapter 4 : Abraham was justified by faith, not by works.
- Romans chapter 5: When we put our faith and live by faith in Jesus, we will have peace of God which enable us to go to heaven and persevere in our sufferings on earth.

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- Romans chapter 6: As Christians, we need to pursue sanctification rather than being enslaved to sin.
 - Romans chapter 7: As Christians, we struggle with our sins but the grace of God will deliver and transform us.
 - Romans chapter 8: As Christians, we have freedom from judgment, defeat, discouragement, and fear. Also, God is working in our lives for our good.

- Romans 9:1-5:
 - Paul shows great concerns to those whom he ministered. Jesus also showed great concerns to those whom He ministered (verse 2,3)
 - Why is it important to show love and concerns to those around us?
 - Fulfill second greatest commandment
 - Showing love and concern will last forever (in heaven)
 - Show mercy is more important than righteous deeds (Isaiah 58:6,7, Micah 6:7,8, 1 Cor 13:1-3)



- Romans 9:1-5:

- The major barriers in showing love and concern: lack of time/ resources, differences in world view/ perspectives/preferences. How can we overcome these barriers?
- How can we show concern and care to the church members?
- How can we show concern and care to the people we meet at our workplace?
- How can we show concern and care to family members?

- Romans 9:6-9:
- Paul makes a shocking announcement: If you are born in the Jewish family (descendant of Abraham), you are not automatically God's or Abraham's children. It's the children of the promise that that are considered Abraham's children (verse 8).
- God's blessings (including salvation) are based on His promise, not based on genealogy or works. The promise was one of the descendant of Abraham, Isaac, David will be a blessing to all people. Not all descendants of Abraham will automatically receive blessing or saved.
- In the same way, if you are born in the Christian family, you will not automatically receive God's blessings. How about the bible verses that say God will bless the children of those who obey Him?

- Romans 9:10-14:
- Another shocking revelation: God fulfills His promise through election. That is God chooses who will receive the promise of God's salvation. God doesn't fulfill His promise through genealogy or works. (verse 11)
- Is God being fair or just when He fulfills His promise of Salvation through election (verse 14)?
- What happens to those who are not elected?

- Romans 9:15- 18:
- Paul answers the question by stating God's election is based on His mercy and compassion. This means all of us are condemned and deserved to go to hell. But God is showing mercy to those whom He wants to show mercy. This mercy is not based on genealogy and works. It's based on God's sovereign choice.
- Should we then preach the Gospel to people only whom God has chosen? Should we minister to the chosen only?
- Why would God create people whom He has not chosen?

- Verse 19-29 :
- Paul answers the question by using the illustration of the potter and the message of salvation to Jews and Gentiles.
- The illustration of potter demonstrate the reality of hell and God's mercy. Also, it demonstrates God's sovereign choice and will.
- God also may use the wicked people to demonstrate His grace and mercy (Romans 9:17, Job 1:8-12, 1 Pet 3:18)
- The illustration of the message of salvation to Jews and Gentiles shows God's sovereign choice. He has not chosen some Jews only, but also some Gentiles.

- Application:
- Salvation and God's blessings are strictly based on God's mercy, promise, and election. However, they also require response on our part.
- Since we don't know who will be saved and who will not be saved, hence, we need to show love and care to everyone. Also, share the Gospel to all people. We don't discriminate.
- Should we pray for the salvation of certain persons?