

Friends Bible Study Romans 9 Meditation Questions

Romans 9:1-5 What Happened to Israel

I speak the truth in Christ; I am not lying, as confirmed by my conscience in the Holy Spirit. ²I have deep sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my own flesh and blood, ⁴the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory and the covenants; theirs the giving of the law, the temple worship, and the promises. ⁵Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them proceeds the human descent of Christ, who is God over all, forever worthy of praise! Amen.

Meditation Question: Why do you think that Israel did not receive God's greatest blessing of righteousness through Christ, even though they were given such great blessings and wonderful promises?

Romans 9:6-9 Who are the true children of Israel?

It is not as though God's word has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷Nor because they are Abraham's descendants are they all his children. On the contrary, "Through Isaac your offspring will be reckoned." ⁸So it is not the children of the flesh who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as offspring. ⁹For this is what the promise stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son."

Meditation Question: Who are the true children of Abraham? Explain your answer from these verses and from other passages including the following: John 1:12-13, John 3:8-10, Romans 2:28-29, Romans 8:14, 1 John 5:1.