

Study of Romans 9
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Romans 9:1-33

In chapter nine, Paul speaks from his heart regarding his Israelite Jewish brothers. Now in this teaching I want to try and show you the heart of this man, Paul, who was a disciple of Messiah, so that you can better understand who he is and what he has gone through. Prior to his experience on the road to Damascus Paul was zealous for the ways of his ancestors, being fully convinced that he was serving Elohim, for he had believed the lies that were fed to him by the religious leaders of his day. What were those lies? They are the **SAME LIES** that are taught to us by our forefathers. *Jeremiah 16:19* gives us a hint as to the kind of lies that Paul is talking about. *O YHVH, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto You from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.* You might say that Paul was **NOT** a gentile, he was a Jew. Ethnically speaking Paul was a Benjamite, but all those ethnically of Israel, thought of themselves as Jews in the time of Messiah, therefore **IT IS** important that we understand what it means to be a gentile, according to Scripture? *Ephesians 2:11* *Wherefore remember, that you **being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time you were without Messiah, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without Elohim in the world;*** therefore a gentile is someone that is without Messiah the Living Torah, Aliens to the commonwealth of Israel, strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without Elohim, in other words a gentile **IS** someone that willingly does **NOT** walk in surrendered obedience to the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, His Torah of Life, given to Moses at mount Sinai. It is quite evident that before his experience on the road to Damascus, that Paul was following the doctrines of man and **NOT** the Torah of Moses, he was ethnically a Benjamite who considered himself part of the Jewish world of the day, and spiritually he believed that he was part of the chosen people of Elohim, **BUT** Scripture tells us **that they are not all Israel which are of Israel**, and in his prior state Paul was **NOT OF ISRAEL, THEREFORE, HE WAS A GENTILE.**

The study of the lies that were taught to Paul and to believers in Messiah throughout the ages is an in depth study that is for another time, but suffice it to say that the religious leaders of the day, had twisted the Torah of Moses, to have **IT SAY** what they wanted it to say, by adding their own man made doctrines to the Torah of YHVH, and taking away what they deemed was no longer relevant from YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, and thereby forming their own man made doctrines, which **IS ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN** by the Torah, in *Deuteronomy 4:2.*

What we must realize about Paul **IS** that based on what he had been taught since he was old enough to speak, Paul truly believed that he was doing Elohim's work, he believed he was Elohim's emissary. Paul's whole life, prior to his Road to Damascus experience, was centred on bringing what he thought were infidels to justice, and see them pay for their crimes against Elohim with their lives.

However, after his experience with Messiah on the road to Damascus, Paul's whole world was turned upside down, and not only did he have to learn many new things, but he had to **UNLEARN**

the **LIES** he had been taught for the past thirty plus years. What Paul had unknowingly been taught and believed is called the *traditions of the fathers* by our Messiah, **IT IS ALSO KNOWN AS MAN MADE DOCTRINE**, and Messiah described **IT AS DUNG** to Him.

Many of you here today, found yourself in the very same situation as Paul did, after his encounter with YHVH on the road to Damascus. You have finally come to the realization that you have been fed a pack of lies, and that what you thought was of Elohim, was **NOT FROM HIM AT ALL, BUT** that it was based on the **DOCTRINES OF MEN**, *traditions of the church fathers*. That could tend to make an individual quite angry, but like Paul, I am convinced that **ALL** of you that have chosen, at least at some level to continue in this Hebraic understanding of the Scriptures and learn more of the Word of Elohim as He has spoken it out in His Torah that was given to Moses on Mount Sinai, and you have done it out of a deep seated love for our heavenly Father and His ways.

Verse 1 I say the TRUTH in Messiah, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, 2 that I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. 3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Messiah for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

Here we see that Paul's heart's desire **IS TO SAVE ALL** of his Israelite brothers, and that he is even willing to be accursed, (*lost forever*) **IF** that would make a difference and bring more of his Jewish brothers and sisters into the fold of believing the Living Word of YHVH, His Living Torah, our Messiah.

Now *verse 4* is extremely important to all of us. Why? Well, let's read it first.

Who are Israelites; they are the ones to whom pertains

1- The adoption

2- The glory

3- The covenants

4- The giving of the Torah (Law)

5- The service of Elohim

6- The promises.

The key point here, and **IT IS** very important that you grasp this, **IS** the name *Israelites*. Paul is saying here that YHVH has **ADOPTED ISRAEL** as His chosen people, **BUT** he also says in *verse 6* *they are NOT all Israel, which are of Israel*. What we have to understand **IS** that to be an *adopted son* according to Scripture, regardless of your ethnicity, a person **MUST** willingly choose to accept this role, and when a person does indeed accept this role, then they truly become sons of the Living Elohim, and they realize and understand that:

- The glory which is reflected upon Israel **IS** YHVH's glory
- The Covenants are **ALL FROM** our heavenly Father
- The inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Torah **IS** of our heavenly Father
- His Torah given to Moses at Mount Sinai, came directly from the mouth of YHVH
- They, the Israelites have been given the privilege of ministering to Elohim
- The promises of Elohim contained in **ALL** of the Scriptures **BELONG TO ISRAEL**
- They **DO NOT BELONG** to the gentiles;
- They **DO NOT BELONG** to the Christians, the Catholics, the Jews, the Muslims, the Buddhists, nor any other man made religious group.
- Or any other entity for that matter, **THEY BELONG TO ISRAEL.**

Therefore **IT IS** very important for us to find out how a person **CAN BECOME PART of ISRAEL**, part of YHVH's family, since **IT IS ONLY ISRAEL** that can become sons of the Living Elohim; and **IT HAS NOTHING**, absolutely nothing **TO DO** with ethnicity, but it has everything thing to do with our surrendered obedient heart, the heart that accepts the **SEED**, the Living Word of YHVH, as their Master and Saviour, His Word, His Torah made flesh.

How does someone become Israel? To understand how the process of becoming Israel happens, **IS** in and of itself a very exhaustive study, which I will condense into a few short words. To be Israel, one must willingly and lovingly surrender their heart, mind, soul, and strength to our heavenly Father, and begin to willingly and lovingly follow and obey His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, the Torah given to Moses at Mount Sinai. By surrendering ourselves **IN THAT MANNER**, we become part of Israel as we see in *Ephesians 2:11* *Wherefore remember, that you **being in time past Gentiles in the flesh**, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time you were **WITHOUT MESSIAH**, being **ALIENS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL**, and **STRANGERS FROM THE COVENANTS OF PROMISE, HAVING NO HOPE**, and **WITHOUT ELOHIM IN THE WORLD**: 13 But now, in Messiah Yeshua, **YOU** who sometimes were far off, **ARE MADE NIGH BY THE BLOOD (the Torah Obedient Life) OF MESSIAH**. And also according to *Hebrews 12:21* we become part of the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven. What does it mean to be Elohim's firstborn, the general assembly and church of the firstborn? We are told in *Exodus 4:2* what it means. Thus says YHVH, **ISRAEL IS MY SON, even MY FIRSTBORN**. To be firstborn means that one becomes part of Elohim's Israel, and that has nothing at all to do with your ethnicity.*

Next Paul tells us that Messiah is descendant of the tribe of Judah, yes, Messiah is a Jew, *verse 5* *Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Messiah came, who is over all, Elohim blessed for ever*, and as a Jew He was raised in a Torah observant family and community, therefore that means that He kept Sabbath, and all of our heavenly Father's Feasts, it means that He ate what our heavenly Father called food and nothing else, His whole life was governed by the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, His Torah of Life. *Amen.* *Verse 6* *Not as though the Word of Elohim has taken none effect. For they are **NOT** all Israel, which are of Israel: 7 neither, because they are the physical seed of Abraham, are they all children of Elohim: but, in Isaac shall your seed be called. 8 That is, they which are **the children of the flesh, these are NOT the children of Elohim**: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.*

Much of the world today including our Jewish brothers, believe that **IF** you are born a Jew, you **ARE** part of Elohim's chosen people. Here, Paul tells us that that **IS NOT CORRECT**. Paul tells us that the children of the flesh, the physical descendants of Abraham are **NOT** necessarily children of Elohim (the chosen people). Paul tells us that the children of the promise **ARE** counted for the seed of Abraham. What does the term *children of the promise are counted as the seed*, mean? In *Luke 8:11* we read: *Now the parable is this: **The SEED IS the Word of Elohim***. Paul is telling us here in *Romans* that the *children of Elohim ARE THOSE THAT HAVE THE SEED OF ELOHIM WITHIN THEM*, and since Luke tells us that the **SEED IS THE WORD OF YHVH, THEN** that means that the children of Elohim, **ARE ALL** those that willingly and lovingly *choose* to accept the Word of YHVH, *the seed*, as their governing force, their way of living. They then become Elohim's *choosing people* rather than Elohim's chosen people. Just to make this perfectly clear, to be a child of Elohim, has absolutely **NOTHING TO DO** with our ethnicity, and has **EVERYTHING TO DO** with the **WORD** of Elohim. Those that willingly accept YHVH's Living Torah, His Word as their

Master and Saviour, are those that Elohim calls His children. **IF** it were by the physical seed of Abraham then all Israelites, Ishmaelites, Edomites and all the natural children of Abraham's second wife Hagar and his third wife Keturah described in *Genesis 25:1 Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah. 2 And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah. 3 And Jokshan begat Sheba, and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim, and Letushim, and Leummim. 4 And the sons of Midian; Ephah, and Epher, and Hanoch, and Abida, and Eldaah;* all these children of Keturah, would also all automatically be saved and be children of Elohim's family, but we are well aware that these people described here along with their descendants **ARE NOT PART** of the family of Elohim unless they willingly choose to accept the Living Torah, the Word of Elohim as their Master and Saviour.

Next Paul reiterates that **IT IS NOT** the physical seed that are the *sons of Elohim* but those that have the Word of Elohim, the seed of Elohim within them. *Verse 9 For this is the Word of promise, at this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son. 10 And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; 11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of Elohim according to His foreknowledge might stand, NOT of works, but of him that calls;)* 12 *It was said unto her, the elder shall serve the younger.* Since YHVH **IS** omniscient, He knows who will and who will **NOT ACCEPT** His Seed, His Word, and therefore Paul says that the purposes of Elohim **WILL BE FULFILLED** by the people that Elohim already knows will willingly obey His Commandments and carry out His will, and in this case it speaks of Isaac and Jacob as the *seed* of promise. YHVH has promised that He will always have a remnant that will carry out the work of Elohim.

The remnant are those that willingly surrender their wills to our heavenly Father as we see in *verse 13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.* A better way to express Elohim's intentions in this verse is to say, *Jacob's ways have I loved, but Esau's ways have I hated.*

Verse 14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with Elohim? Elohim forbid. 15 For He says to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then, IT IS NOT of him that wills, nor of him that runs, but of Elohim that shows mercy.

If our heavenly Father did not have mercy on us, we would **ALL DIE**, for Scripture tells us that **ALL** people have sinned and fallen short of the glory of Elohim, and Scripture tells us in *Romans 6:23* that the wages of sin **IS** death.

Next we witness the sovereignty of YHVH; *verse 17 For the Scripture says unto Pharaoh, even for this same purpose have I raised you up, that I might show My power in you, and that My Name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore has He mercy on whom He will have mercy, and whom He will, He hardens.* These last few words, *and whom He will He hardens*, can easily be misunderstood and has been by many people. In Scripture YHVH tells us that He will give us the desires of our heart. If we have *love, grace, mercy, compassion, or understanding* in our hearts, then our heavenly Father will **STRENGTHEN** those attributes, but **IF** we have *anger, pride, bitterness and any other negative emotion*, then our heavenly Father **STRENGTHENS** or **HARDENS** those attributes within us, therefore we have to be ever diligent as to what **WE PUT IN OUR HEARTS**, for YHVH reads men's hearts and what He finds there **HE STRENGTHENS**. Let us therefore fill our hearts with the love, grace, mercy and compassion that Elohim has for us, so that we too can be holy as He is Holy.

Paul explains it this way, *verse 19 You will say then unto me, why does YHVH yet find fault? For who has resisted His will? 20 Nay but, O man, who are you that replies against Elohim? Shall the thing formed say to Him that formed it, why have You made me thus? 21 Has not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? 22 What IF Elohim, willing to show His wrath, and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: 23 And that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had before prepared unto glory, 24 Even us, whom He has called, **not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?** 25 As He says also in Hosea, I will call them My people, which were **NOT** My people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. 26 And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, You are **NOT** My people; there shall they be called the children of the Living Elohim.*

What we have to understand **IS** that Elohim is omniscient, which means that He knows all things, past, present and future, and He knows who will and who will **NOT** accept His Word, His Living Torah as their Master and Saviour. This means that Elohim knew before every human being was born what they would turn out to be, whether they would accept His Word as their Master and Saviour **OR NOT**, and still He allowed those that He knew would even learn to hate Him, to be born and live a life on this earth. That my friends **IS PURE** love, for even though YHVH knows that some will even hate Him, in His infinite love, grace and mercy, He still gives them the opportunity to choose life, and He does everything within His power to turn that person around so that they will be saved and spend eternity with Him, for Scripture emphatically states that **IT IS YHVH'S WILL THAT NONE SHOULD PERISH**. If He were to allow only those that He knows will accept His Word as their Master and Saviour, then there is no longer any **choice** for any of us and we all become like robots, but **IF** we that love Elohim, understand that He even allows those that hate Him to live, then that should show us how loving, caring and compassionate He is.

Next we see that Paul explains that Isaiah had the exact same message that he, Paul is giving here in the book of Romans. *Verse 27 Isaiah also cries concerning Israel, though the number of the children of Israel will be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved: (What number constitutes a remnant?) 28 For He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will YHVH make upon the earth.* We read the same thing in *Mark 13:20 And except that YHVH had shortened those days, NO FLESH SHOULD BE SAVED: but for THE ELECT'S SAKE, whom He has chosen, He has shortened the days.*

That, my friends, **IS** the great love of Elohim being demonstrated towards us, for He loves us **ALL** with a perfect love, and He does **NOT** want anyone to perish.

Verse 29 And as Isaiah said before, except YHVH of Sabbath had left us a seed (Word), we had been as Sodom, and been made like unto Gomorrah. Since according to Scripture, the *Seed* is the *Word*, therefore what YHVH has left behind for us **IS HIS WORD**, and Isaiah tells us that had Elohim **NOT LEFT US HIS WORD, HIS LIVING TORAH**, we would be like Sodom and Gomorrah, and we would have **ALL** been consumed, **BUT** because of His great love for us, He says that He will cut those days of suffering down to a bare minimum.

Verse 30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which FOLLOWED NOT after RIGHTEOUSNESS, which followed NOT after the Torah, (If you have ever had any doubts that the Torah of our heavenly Father IS RIGHTEOUSNESS, then this verse should remove all doubt) HAS ATTAINED TO RIGHTEOUSNESS, even the righteousness WHICH IS of BELIEF (faith). 31 But Israel, which followed after the Torah (Law) of RIGHTEOUSNESS, has NOT attained to the

Torah (Law) of righteousness. 32 Why? Because **THEY SOUGHT IT NOT BY BELIEF (faith), BUT** as it were **BY THE WORKS OF THE TORAH**, the works of the Law, **CALLED LEGALISM**. I hope you can grasp what Paul **IS** saying here, for **IT IS** critical that we understand what Paul **IS** saying in order to better understand **ALL** of Scripture. Paul **IS NOT** speaking out **AGAINST** the Torah, the Law, Paul **IS** simply saying that the Torah **IS RIGHTEOUSNESS, BUT** that we cannot **DO** the works of Torah **IN AND OR BY** our own strength, **IT IS** only through Messiah, the Living Torah, the Spirit of Elohim indwelling us, **IT IS** only after we have surrendered our hearts in loving obedience to YHVH, that the Spirit of Elohim causes us to willingly and lovingly walk out YHVH's beautiful inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, walk out His righteousness, walk out His Torah (*Ezekiel 36:27*).

For they stumbled at that stumbling-stone; What IS that stumbling stone, that Eben, אֶבֶן. The stumbling stone **IS** the Living Torah, and **IT IS** an **ESTABLISHED BIBLICAL FACT** that we **CANNOT KEEP THE TORAH** in and or through our own strength, therefore we **MUST** believe that Elohim **EXIST**, and then, willingly and lovingly surrender our hearts to our heavenly Father in surrendered loving obedience, and **WHEN WE DO THAT OF OUR OWN FREE WILL**, YHVH **THEN** fills us with His Holy Spirit (*Ezekiel 36:26-27*), who in turn **CAUSES** each and every surrendered heart to walk out YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions. *Verse 33 As IT IS written, behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling-stone and rock of offence: and whosoever believes on Him* (the Him Spoken of here **IS** of course the Living Torah, the Living Word of Elohim **MADE FLESH**, our Messiah) *shall NOT be ashamed.* We simply have to understand that the Torah of Elohim **WHEN KEPT** by YHVH's people, through the indwelling of Elohim's Holy Spirit, **IS** the vehicle that leads us onto salvation, because Elohim, who loves us **ALL** with an infinite unending love, has given us His Holy Spirit who is tasked with **CAUSING** every surrendered contrite heart to walk in His **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, walk in His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life. The Torah my friends **IS NOT** salvation, the Torah **IS** YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **YHVH's PATH TO SALVATION IF YOU WILL**, and **ALL** we have **TO DO IS** surrender our hearts to YHVH, stay on YHVH's designated path, His directives for everlasting Life, His Torah and it will lead us onto eternal salvation in the kingdom of our heavenly Father, as the Bride of Messiah. Amen

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם, Shalom Aleykem. Amen