

THE PASSION OF GOD

Romans 9.1-5

There is a profound truth about everyone. All of us want to be loved. We want to be loved unconditionally, for who we are with both the good and the bad. This is one of the reasons why Christianity should be an appealing way of life. One of the basic tenants of Jesus' teaching is that we should love one another.

In the Scripture, we are told that there are three categories of people we are to love.

*"A new command I give you: **Love one another.**"* John 13.34-35

*"**Love your neighbor** as yourself." Matthew 22.37-40*

*"But I tell you: **Love your enemies** and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5.44*

What Is It That Pleases God?

*"I speak the truth in Christ – I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit – I have **great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.** For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, the people of Israel." Romans 9.1-4a*

*"This is good, and **pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.**" 1 Timothy 2.1-6*

"So Moses went back to the LORD and said, 'Oh, what a great sin these people have committed! They have made themselves gods of gold. But now, please forgive their sin – but if not, then blot me out of the book you have written.'" Exodus 32.31-32

What About The People Of Israel?

*"...**the people of Israel.** Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen." Romans 9.4-5*

Paul goes on to describe just why his heart is broken. It was because of a wasted opportunity. Israel was in a position to know the truth. Israel had been the beneficiary of all of the promises of God. He mentions 8 things Israel was privileged to possess.

(1) **The Adoption as Sons.** Exodus 4.22; Jeremiah 31.9; Hosea 11.1

(2) **The Divine Glory.** Exodus 16.7, 10; 24.16ff; 40.34ff; 2 Chronicles 5.14; Ezekiel 1.28; John 1.14

(3) **The Covenants.**

Abrahamic – Genesis 12; 15; **Mosaic** – Exodus 19; 5; 24.1ff; **Davidic** – 2 Samuel 7.14; **The New Covenant** – Jeremiah 31.31-34; Ezekiel 36.22-30

(4) **The Receiving of the Law.** Exodus 19.1 – Numbers 10.11

(5) **The Temple Worship.** Leviticus 1-27

(6) **The Promises.**

(7) **Theirs are the Patriarchs.**

Abraham – Romans 4.12, 16; Luke 1.73; 3.8; John 8.56; **Isaac** – Romans 9.10; **Jacob** – John 4.12; **The twelve sons of Jacob** – Acts 7.12, 15

(8) **The Human Ancestry of Christ.**

What Is The Message To Us?

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