

Our Sovereign God
Romans 9

Digging Deeper

Paul's emotional starting point – not all are saved

Paul's responses to objections

Objection 1:

Since not all are saved, God's Word has failed.

Answer:

God's purpose

Objection 2:

God is being unjust in choosing some and not others.

Answer:

God's mercy

Objection 3:

If it's up to God's will and not us, how can He find fault with anyone?

Answer:

God's right

1. Why did Paul “have great sorrow and unceasing anguish of heart”? How much sorrow and anguish do you have for the lost? Review the blessings and promises from chapter 8. How tragic is it that so many reject those? Pray for deeper compassion and sorrow for the lost today.
2. Out of the three objections in chapter 9 (vss. 6, 14, 19) which have you heard most from others, or even wrestled with yourself? I asked in Sunday's sermon, “Would we rather that we were in charge instead of God?” Spend some time reflecting on that question along with God's power, mercy, justice and wisdom. Read passages like Job 38-41 and Isaiah 40 giving thanks to God for His absolute sovereignty.
3. What do you think Paul meant in verse 32 in saying of the Jews who pursued righteousness through the law, “They have stumbled over the stumbling stone”? Understanding that Jesus is that stone, how do some stumble over Him?