The Sovereign Mercy of a Just God!
Oct. 04, 2020 – Romans 9:14-24
Pastor Jon Pickens

Romans 9:14-24

Objection #1: *What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part?*

Answer: *By no means!*

First Basis for the Answer: God's election is an act of _____!

For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

Conclusion: *So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.*
- Depends Not on Human _____: If it were based on man's desire, no one would be saved.
- Depends Not on Human _____: If it were based on man's effort or works, no one would be saved.

Second Basis for the Answer – God's election has an eternal _____ in view.

For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

Conclusion Restated: *So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.*

Objection #2: *You will say to me then, "Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?"*

- The objection reworded – If salvation is solely an act of God's mercy as He wills, then how can He hold someone _____ who can't resist His will. It seems _____.

Answer: *But who are you, O man, to answer back to God?*

Basis for the Answer: *Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?" Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?*

Hypothetical: *What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory-- even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?*

Conclusion: God is not like us and is in fact far _____ to anything He created, therefore, He _____ human capacity to fully understand Him and His ways.

Dealing with a few false assumptions relative to election:

1. God's ways have to make _____ to us.

2. God's election makes God _____.

3. God's election invalidates _____.

4. God's election invalidates _____.

Questions

1. What are the reasons that Paul gives to prove that God's election does not violate His justice?
2. Why is it critical that God's election is not based on human desire or effort?
3. Paul's response in verse 20 can come across as harsh, however, he is making an important point. What is that point?
4. In what way did the message this morning help bring clarity to you regarding this doctrine?
5. What questions do you still have regarding this doctrine?
6. In what ways does this doctrine affect your walk with Jesus?

Next Steps: October Reading Plan (Week 1)

Day One: Revelation 16
Day Two: Revelation 17
Day Three: Revelation 18
Day Four: Revelation 19
Day Five: Revelation 20

Next Week's Sermon: Romans 9:24-33

September Scripture Memory:

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it-- 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:21-26 (ESV)