

God's Word Never Fails  
Romans 9:6-29  
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Lord's Day, January 28, 2018

**BIG IDEA: Marvel at God's mercy that any sinner would share in His glory of salvation.**

**1. Has God's word failed (9:6-13)?**

a. Question (v. 6a)

b. Answer (v. 6b-13)

**Two truths:**

- (1) Salvation is not inherited (vv. 7-9)
- (2) Salvation is not merited (vv. 10-13)

**2. Is God unjust (9:14-18)?**

a. Question (v. 14a)

b. Answer (vv. 14b-18)

**Deut. 32:4** All his ways are justice, A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and right is he.

**Two illustrations:**

**(1) God's Word to Moses (v. 15; Ex. 33:19)**

**Conclusion (v. 16)**

If [God] were compelled to be merciful by some cause outside himself, not only would his mercy be so much the less mercy, but he himself would be so much the less God. –**F.F. Bruce**

It is still the choice that bothers us; why would God choose some to show mercy and not choose others?

God is holy and must punish sin; but God is loving and desires to save sinners. If everybody is saved, it would deny His holiness; but if everybody is lost, it would deny His love. The solution to the problem is God's sovereign election. –**Warren Wiersbe**

**(2) God's Word to Pharaoh (v. 16; Ex. 9:16)**

**2 purposes:**

- Show God's power – "that I might show my power in you"
- Proclaim God's name – "that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

### Conclusion (v. 18)

Here we see how God's sovereignty relates to human responsibility.

- God hardens Pharaoh's heart (Ex. 4:21, 7:3; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27).
- Pharaoh hardens his heart (Ex. 8:15, 19, 32; 9:7, 17, 34).

"If therefore God hardens some, he is not being unjust, for that is what their sin deserves. If, on the other hand, he has compassion on some, he is not being unjust, for he is dealing with them in mercy. The wonder is not that some are saved and others not, but that anybody is saved at all. For we deserve nothing at God's hand but judgment. If we receive what we deserve (which is judgment), or if we receive what we do not deserve (which is mercy), in neither case is God unjust. If therefore anybody is lost, the blame is theirs, but if anybody is saved, the credit is God's. –**John Stott**

### 3. Why does God still blame us (9:19-29)?

#### a. Question (v. 19)

#### b. Answer (vv. 20-24)

##### (1) God's sovereignty (vv. 20-21; Isaiah 29:16; 45:9)

- Do you have a clear understanding of the difference between respectfully reasoning with God and disrespectfully challenging his authority?

##### (2) God's glory (vv. 22-24)

- The preeminent disclosure will be God's glory. The glory of his grace shines against the backdrop of his wrath.

#### Two confirmations:

##### ➤ Hosea (vv. 25-26; Hosea 1:10; 2:23)

**Ephesians 2:12–13** remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

##### ➤ Isaiah (vv. 27-29; Isa. 10:22-23)

**Habakkuk 3:2** O LORD, I have heard the report of you, and your work, O LORD, do I fear. In the midst of the years revive it; in the midst of the years make it known; in wrath remember mercy.

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