9/19/10

Lovingly Committed To Israel Rom. 9:1-5

The apostle Paul has proclaimed the gospel of grace to the Roman Christians making it clear that both Jew and Gentile must come to God on the same basis, faith in Jesus Christ.

In the first eight chapters, which are categorized as doctrinal Paul has said some hard things about the Jews and he knew that there would be accusations and attacks against him, so Paul begins the national or prophetical section focusing on Israel. Rom. 9-11

This is not to say that there is no more doctrine contained in the following chapters, but that the labels serves as categories for the book divisions.

There are different views as to the section regarding Israel and the promises of God in these three chapters.

- 1. Some have viewed these chapters as a unit in itself with no relation to the preceding section or the following one.
 - **a.** This ignores the opening thesis statement, the key verse of Romans that includes the Jew and Gentile regarding the gospel. Rom. 1:17

- **b.** This ignores the historical tension of the Jews rejecting the gospel.
- **2.** This section is long coming since Paul has addressed Israel throughout the first eight chapters.
 - **a.** He mentioned the gospel being first for the Jews, as a priority of time and then for the Gentiles. Rom. 1:17
 - **b.** He addressed their privilege and rite of circumcision, but that in and of itself was nullified without a circumcised heart. Rom. 2:17-29
 - c He mentioned that the law and the prophets witnessed to the righteousness of the gospel, as the fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures. Rom. 3:21-26
 - **d.** He proved that the faith of Abraham was in the promise of God, he simply believed God, accounted his faith for righteousness, not by any works of his own. Rom. 4:1-8
 - **e.** He declared that all men and women are justified by grace in Christ. Rom. 5:1-2
- **3.** The present section is the development of his opening thesis to show how it is that Israel fits into the plan of God through the gospel. Rom. 1:16-17
 - **a.** Chapter nine deals with the **past election of Israel** by God's divine sovereign choosing and His purposes, which both were rejected by Israel.

- **b.** Chapter ten deals with the **present**, **rejection of the gospel by Israel**, having human responsibility and free will to respond to God's word.
- c. Chapter eleven deals with the **future** restoration of Israel, for Israel's rejection is not total nor final, for all true Israel will be saved once the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.
 - * Do not miss Paul's careful emphasis on the sovereignty of God, while never neglecting human responsibility!

The three chapter are a unit with unifying harmony and progressive development, as stated, explaining how Israel fits into the plan of God through the gospel.

- **1.** The section has an opening proclamation of his love for Israel. Rom. 9:1-5
- **2.** The body of the section then follows. Rom. 9:6-11:32
- **3.** The section has a closing doxology. Rom. 11:33-36
- **4.** These three chapters contains 30% of it's quotes from the Old Testament, 40% are from Isaiah.
- **5.** The majority of the quotes in Romans are from the Old Testament, which are found in these three chapters, more than 50%. Rom. 9-11
- **6.** Paul will continue to deal dialectical manner with rhetorical questions and arguments to

establish the truth of the gospel. Rom. 9:14, 30, 10:7, 14-15a, 19, 11:1, 7, 11

We want to look at Paul's genuine proclamation of love for Israel, verified by three facts. Rom. 9:1-5

- I. Paul's oath regarding Israel. vs. 1
- **II.** Paul's passion regarding Israel. vs. 2-3
- III. Paul's list of privileges regarding Israel. vs. 4-5

I. Paul's oath regarding Israel. vs.1

- **A**. The oath of Paul is based on declaring the truth in Christ. vs. 1a
 - * I tell the truth in Christ."
 - **1.** The personal pronoun Paul used indicates that it is he who is speaking, "I".
 - **a.** Once again we find ourselves in God's divine courtroom!
 - **b.** The Jews probably were accusing Paul of being bitter against them, they thought he had betrayed the Jews.
 - c. When Paul arrived at Jerusalem, after his third mission was accused of teaching the Jews to abandon the law.
 * "but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs." Acts 21:21

- **2.** The particular words Paul is going to declare to them are based on truth.
 - **a.** The word for truth "aletheia", is used for what is true in any matter under consideration.
 - * Reliable and trustworthy words!
 - **b.** The truth Paul is going to talk about is the salvation of the Jews, Israel, their election, rejection and restoration.
- **3.** The person Paul pledged his oath by is "in Christ".
 - a. This qualifies his words in a greater way by naming Christ as his source and witness of his words, in order to validate his words.
 - **b.** The title Christ "Christos", identified the Messiah who was the expected deliverer of Israel according to the Hebrew Scriptures.
 - * The Messiah was greater than all for He was God in the flesh, now glorified at the right hand of God.
 - **c**. The preposition "in Christ" is found about 70 times in Romans.
 - 1) Again Paul knew that there were Jews who accused him of being antagonistic towards them and the nation of Israel.
 - 2) Perhaps after the first 8 chapters, some believed this much more, so

- he pledges his undying love for them!
- 3) This was Paul's three-fold evidence of his truthfulness!
- **B.** The oath of Paul is based on his testimony that he was not lying. vs. 1b * "I am not lying.".
 - 1. The words of Paul are to be judged by his past life which was exemplary as a Hebrew of Hebrews, Pharisee of Pharisees, blameless in the law and excelling his contemporaries. Phil. 3:5-6
 - 2. The words of Paul were to be judged by his present life of service to God, to both Jews and Gentiles. Acts 9-28
 - a. He attests to not lying three other times in Scripture, "I lie not."
 - 1) "When Paul was listing all his sufferings for Christ, he said, "The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying." 2Cor. 11:31
 - 2) "When Paul said he saw only Peter and James when he went to Jerusalem from Damascus, (concerning the things which I write to you, indeed, before God, I do not lie.)" Gal. 1:20

- 3) "for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle--I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying--a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth." 1Tim. 2:7
- **b**. He calls God to bear record or witness Many other times.
 - 1) "Moreover I call God as a witness against my soul." 2Cor. 1:23
 - 2) "We speak before God in Christ." 2Cor. 12:19b
 - 3) "For God is my witness.." Phil. 1:8
 - **4)** "He charges Timothy before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels..." <u>1Tim. 5:21</u>
- **c.** He lived by this principle of truthfulness even as Paul told Timothy.
- C. The oath of Paul is based on a clear conscience by the examination of the Holy Spirit. vs. 1c
 - * "my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit."
 - 1. The conscience is God given and it is given to every man and woman to know right and wrong, good and evil, therefore man is without excuse before God. Rom. 2:14-15
 - **a.** The word conscience "suneidesis", is a compound word.

- 1) The first "sun", meaning with, besides or accompany.
- 2) The second "eido, to know
- 3) The word conscience means "with knowledge", the idea being that one is living up to the knowledge he or she possesses.

 * "Now the end of the commandment is agape love out of a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith." 1Tim. 1:5
- **b.** Now due to the fact that man is fallen, a sinner, his conscience is not sufficient to guide us through life.
 - 1) Our conscience is valid only when guided by the Holy Spirit.
 - 2) Our conscience must be recalibrated to the word of God and then we must be true to it, for we can still lie as Christians and are not perfect.
 - 3) Our conscience as Christians can not be depended on as the ultimate source of self examination to insure faultlessness, for God alone knows our thoughts from their origin, before they are manifested in our minds, He alone can search us by His Holy Spirit. Ps. 139:2, 23-24

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- **4.** The conscience of Paul was fully aware of his being inspired by the Holy Spirit to write thereby being inerrant and infallible.
 - **a.** All Scripture is ...2Tim. 3:16-17
 - **b.** All the prophets and men of old were carried along by the Holy Spirit, insuring the origin and source of the revelation to be Inspired of God. <u>2Pet.</u> 1:20-21

Illustration

The value of an oath is that it is based on something more honorable and greater than yourself, as the Bible in a court, in the past.

Application

- **1.** The believer is to tell the truth, even when it is not to his benefit.
 - **a.** Too often in today's Christian world, there if little difference between Christian and non-Christian.
 - **b.** We have culturalized Christianity and trivialized honesty and integrity.
 - **c.** Truth is not relative, but object, truth is truth and a lie is a lie.
 - **d.** I will validate the truth of my words by my character lived out in life.
 - * "Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, And so find

favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man." Prov. 3:3-4

- **2.** The believer is to be transformed by the word of God and the Holy Spirit.
 - **a.** Not being fashioned to this world, but being transformed by the renewing of our minds, to prove what is that good and acceptable will of God. Rom. 12:2
 - b. A conscience can be defiled, be weak and seared. 1Cor. 8:7, 12, 1Tim. 4:2
 - **c.** We are to have good and pure conscience, living up to the knowledge of God's word. Acts 4:23:1, 1Tim. 3:9
- **3.** God reveals in the scriptures that conscience is not enough to guide man through life, enough to resist temptations or sufficient to overcome his struggles with sin nature.
 - **a.** Adam and Eve failed to live up to their conscience of God's knowledge they possessed.
 - **b.** Abraham failed to trust God to give him a child of his own and conceived Ishmael.
 - **c.** Moses failed to properly represent God before the people as he gave them water to drink from the rock.
 - **d.** David knowing that Bathsheba was another man's wife took her and committed adultery with her.
 - **e.** Peter knowing that Jesus was the Son of God, denied Him three times.

The genuine proclamation of Paul's love was marked by his oath regarding Israel!

II. Paul's passion regarding Israel. vs. 2-3

- **A.** The passion of Paul is marked by the great sorrow in his heart for his kinsmen according to the flesh, the Jews. vs. 2
 - * "that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart."
 - **1.** The intensity of Paul's sorrow is described as great.
 - **a.** The word "megas", is used in various ways, of the external form or sensible appearance of things or of persons, ranks and great things.
 - **b.** The word in this case is used to indicate the intensity and its degree of the affections and emotions of sorrow of both mind and heart.
 - **2.** The indication of his pain is a reality, not mere exaggeration or hyperbole.
 - **a.** Paul identifies his pain first as sorrow.
 - 1) The word sorrow "lupe", means pain, grief, annoyance, affliction with the idea of consuming grief.
 - **2)** The word is used of the disciples who Jesus found sleeping for sorrow. <u>Lk. 22:45</u>
 - **3)** The word is used of enduring grief of conscience sake. 1Pet. 2:19

- **b.** Paul identifies his pain second as grief.
 - 1) The word grief "odunee", means consuming grief.
 - 2) The word appears only one other time in the New Testament, of the many consuming afflictions that people bring upon themselves by riches. 1Tim. 6:10
- **3.** The inclination of this pain was constant, in his heart.
 - **a.** The word continual "adialiptos", means unintermitted, unceasing, without leaving off.
 - **b.** The word is found only one other time, as Paul used it to indicate his unceasing remembrance of Timothy in his prayers. <u>2Tim. 1:3</u>
- **4.** The indicated reasons for such sorrow and grief are clearly stated.
 - **a.** They had not sought salvation by faith but works. Rom. 9:32
 - **b.** They stumble at Christ. Rom. 9:33
 - **c.** They had zeal. but not according to knowledge. Rom. 10:2
 - **b.** They were ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness therefore not submitting to the righteousness of God. Rom. 10:3

- c. They did not recognize Christ as the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believed. Rom. 10:4
- **B**. The passion of Paul is marked by being willing to be accursed from Christ for the salvation of the Jews. vs. 3
 - * "For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh."
 - 1. The proclamation of Paul regards his love for Israel.
 - **a.** His love for the Jews throughout his life till now.
 - **b.** His love was greater after knowing Christ.
 - * "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved." Rom. 10:1
 - **2**. The indication of the wish of Paul regards intercessory love.
 - a. The phrase I could wish "euchomai", means to pray to God, to pray for, with the idea of sincerity and willingness, yet the imperfect tense indicates Paul knew the impossibility of such a possibility or necessity.
 - * Paul has just stated that there is no condemnation to those "in Christ Jesus", this is the only way!

- **b.** Paul used it when he addressed Agrippa to express his prayer desire that he and all present were as Paul was, a Christian, except for the chains he bore. Acts 26:29
- **c.** John used it to pray for the believer's prosperity in all things and health, as they were prospering in their souls. 3Jn. 2
- **3.** The commendation to Paul regards the severe consequences to himself by his prayer of love.
 - **a.** The petition is a demonstration of his selflessness, evident of the extent of his love for Israel.
 - 1) For his brethren, Israel.
 - **2)** For his kinsmen according to the flesh, Israel.
 - **b.** The petition is an expression of sacrifice love, Christ-like, to be accursed from Christ.
 - 1) The word accursed "anathema", is an interesting word in that it corresponds to the Hebrew word for devoted things to God for destruction and unredeemable.

 Lev. 27:28, Josh. 6:17, Ezra 10:8
 - 2) The word in the Greek is the strongest word of damnation, which means doomed and separated from Christ, accursed to

- perdition. (<u>Thayer</u>) <u>Acts 23:14,</u> 1Cor. 12:3, 16:22, Gal. 1:8, 9
- c. The petition was the willingness to be separated from Christ for all eternity for the benefit of others, who did not deserve it, though not possible or necessary, Christ was the substitute. 2Cor. 5:21
 - 1) Jesus was our substitute on the cross and Paul desired that if possible he could be the substitute for his brethren the Jews, his countrymen, Israel.
 - * Paul is expressing his passion for Israel's lost ness. the **context** of all three chapters is the **NATION**, **not individuals**, as his sincere love for the NATION.
 - 2) The petition is like the petition of Moses to have his name blotted out of the book of life, if God did not forgive the Israelite, after their sin of idolatry. Ex. 32:31-33
 - **4)** The petition is sourced in God, for He alone can love like this.
 - a) Prayer in it's true form always begins with God, He is the initiator through His Holy Spirit.
 - **b**) Prayer in it's truest form is God's will being laid on my heart, in order that I petition it to

- manifest His purposes and being conformed to the image of His Son.
- * Remember many misunderstood Paul's Christian love because he shared the truth in Christ, opposing religion, philosophy, even Judaism.
- 1)) In His missionary journeys, he always went first to the Jew.
- **2**)) Returning to Jerusalem, he was nearly killed by the Jews.

Illustration

Having a loving passion for others, is having love for them that is greater than for yourself and the willingness of sacrifice even one's life if need be, without hesitation.

* No greater example is "The Passion of the Christ"!

Application

- **1.** The personal attacks that come with being a Christian are many and they grieve our hearts.
 - **a.** Family members will accuse us of betraying them by changing our religion because we become Christians.
 - 1) They will think and tell you that you think you are better than them.
 - 2) They will accuse you of judging them.

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- * "For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.' He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me." Matt. 10:35-38
- **b.** Friends will criticize and oppose us as being fanatics or just having lost our minds.
 - 1) Our priorities are different now in Christ.
 - 2) Our life-style has changed from living for sin, to living for Christ.
 - * "He who is not with Me is **against** Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad." Matt. 12:30
- **2.** The passion of our love for those who do not know Christ must be directed in prayer to God.
 - **a.** Prayer for specific people, by name.
 - **b.** Prayer for specific interventions by God to bring them to the end of themselves and sin.
 - **c.** Prayer for the reception of the gospel, be it through personal witness or inviting them to church or a concert.
 - **d.** Prayer to be sensitive and available to those lost around me.
 - **e.** Prayer for protection of individuals.

- **f.** Prayer is an obligation and marks an attitude of complete dependence on God.
 - 1) Samuel said, "Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you. <u>1Sam.</u> 12:23
 - 2) Jesus said, "Men ought always to pray and not loose heart". Lk. 18:1

The genuine proclamation of Paul's love was marked by his passion regarding Israel!

III. Paul's list of privileges regarding Israel. vs. 4-5

- **A.** Paul said they were Israelites. vs. 4a * "who are Israelites."
 - **1.** This marked their national identity as a theocracy.
 - **a.** Israel "Israelites", means God prevails or governed, ruled by God.
 - **b.** Jacob had his name changed as he wrestled with the Angel of the Lord. Gen. 32:24-28
 - **2.** This name was given to Jacob as he was defeated by The Angel of the Lord in a wrestling match. Gen. 32:24-28
 - **a.** His name Jacob means heal catcher or supplanter as the circumstances of his birth.
 - **b.** His mane was to be governed by God.

- **B.** Paul said they had obtained adoption. vs. 4b * "to whom pertain the adoption."
 - **1.** The word adoption "huithesia", means the placing of a son, to whom it does not naturally belong.
 - **2.** God called Israel His first born and commanded Pharaoh to let him go. Ex. 4:22
 - **3.** God declared that they were the children of the Lord their God. Deut. 14:1
 - **4.** God declared that He was a father to Israel, and Ephraim was His firstborn. Jer. 31:9
 - **5.** God said that He called His son out of Egypt. Hos. 11:1
 - **6.** God declared that only Israel had He known of all the families of the earth. Amos 3:2
- C. Paul said they had obtained the glory of God. vs. 4c
 - * "the glory."
 - 1. The are many appearances of God in some visible manifestation to give evidence of His presence are called theophanies, this is what Paul is talking about.
 - * In contrast to the appearances of God in human forms in the Old Testaments are called Christophanies.

- **2.** There is the reference to the Shekinah glory that appeared before them as evidence of the presence of God.
- **3.** The Angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in the burning bush. Ex. 3:2
- **4.** The Lord led the children of Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Ex. 13:21
- **5.** Moses, Nadab, Abihu and the seventy elders saw the glory of God on the mountain and ate and drank with God. Ex. 24:10
- **6.** At the raising of the Tabernacle the cloud covered the tent and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle so that Moses was not able to enter in to it. Ex. 40:34-35
- 7. The same thing happened when Solomon finished the Temple and all the furnishings were placed in the Holy of Holies so that once again the priest could not continue to ministering. <a href="https://linewist.ncb.nlm.ncb.n
- **D**. Paul said they had obtained the covenants. vs. 4d
 - * "the covenants."
 - 1. There are many covenant, plural.
 - **a.** Beginning with Adam, to not eat of the fruit in the midst of the Garden. Gen. 2

- **b.** Noah's covenant, to take refuge in the ark from the judgment and that God would not destroy the world by a flood again. Gen. 6-9
- 2. The covenants with Patriarchs.
 - **a.** God made a covenant with Abraham to leave his family and land and God would make him a nation. Gen. 12:1-3, 15:18
 - b. God made a covenant with Isaac, he would be the heir according to the promise of God, not Ishmael. Gen. 26
 * The notion that God made a covenant with Ishmael is a lie by the Arabs and Muslims, it is clear that God rejected Ishmael from the covenant. Gen. 17:20-22
 - **c.** God made a covenant with Jacob, through his sons. Gen. 28
- **3.** The covenants after the Patriarchs.
 - **a.** God made a covenant with David, that through his descendents the Messiah would come. 2Sam. 7
 - **b.** The New Covenant was given to Jeremiah to give Israel a new heart. Jer. 31:31-34, Ezk. 36:26
 - * There are others but probably these refer to the Patriarchal covenants.
- **E.** Paul said they had obtained the giving of the law. <u>vs. 4e</u>

- * "the giving of the law."
- 1. The law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai for the benefit of society.
 - **a.** The ten words or Commandments, as the heart and foundation of right and wrong. Ex. 20, Deut. 5
 - **b.** The statutes, judgments and the ordinances for community life. <u>Ex.</u>, Lev.
- **2.** The law was to be a tutor to lead them to Christ. Gal. 3:24
 - a. Everything in the Old Testament spoke of Christ, "In the volume of the book it is written of Me oh Lord". Heb.10:5-7, "Ps. 40:6-8"
 - **b.** John tells us that the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Rev. 19:10f
 - **c.** The articles of the Tabernacle were symbolic of Christ in types.
 - 1) The wood spoke of His humanity and Incarnation.
 - **2**) The gold spoke of His deity.
 - 3) The brass spoke of judgment.
 - 4) The silver spoke of redemption.
 - **5**) The blood spoke of the atoning power for sin.
 - * The incarnation would be God's Son who would be judged for the sins of the world to redeem mankind

through the forgiveness of their sins through His blood.

- **F.** Paul said they had obtained the service of God. vs. 4f
 - * "the service of God."
 - **1.** The tribe of Livi had been chosen to serve the Tabernacle.
 - 2. The tribe had four families, Mererites, Gershonites, Kohathites and the family of Aaron, each had their specific duties.
 - **3.** The family of Aaron was given the High Priesthood to offer sacrifice to make atonement for the sins of the people and the nation.
 - * The book of Hebrews is clear that everything prophetic spoke of Jesus!
- G. Paul said the fathers had obtained the promises of the Messiah to come, through their linage. vs. 4g-5c
 - * "and the promises of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came."
 - 1. The promises were given to the Patriarchs. vs. 4g-5a
 - **a.** Adam received the promise of the virgin birth of the Messiah, the seed of the woman. Gen. 3:15
 - **b**. To Abraham God said, "But My covenant I will establish with **Isaac**,

- whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year." Gen. 17:21
- c. Israel received the promise of the prophet to come, the Messiah. <u>Deut.</u> 18:18
- **d.** God made a covenant with Isaac, he would be the heir according to the promise of God, not Ishmael. Gen. 26
- e. To Jacob that Shiloh would come when the right of capital punishment was removed from Israel. Gen. 49:10
- **f.** David received the promise that of his seed would be born the Messiah to sit on the throne of Israel. <u>2Sam. 7:12-</u>17, Rom. 1:3
- 2. The promise regarded the Incarnation. <u>vs.</u> <u>5b-c</u>
 - **a.** The phrase according to the flesh refers to a physical body. Jn. 1:14, Heb. 10:5
 - **b.** The phrase relates to the ancestry of the Patriarchs, the fathers and the line of David. Rom. 1:3
 - **c.** The title "Christ", means anointed or Messiah.
- **H.** Paul said they obtained God in their mist. <u>vs.</u> <u>5d-e</u>
 - * "who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen."
 - 1. Who is over all.

- **a.** He is all powerful.
- **b.** He is all present.
- **c.** He is all knowing.
- **2.** Who is eternal.
 - **a.** He is without beginning or end.
 - **b.** He dwells outside of man's time domain, in an eternal present.
- **3.** Who is God.
 - a. This is one of the strongest statements of the deity of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures, though some try to make it a doxology or attribute it to the Father, when in fact the subject is Christ who came according to the flesh! Heb. 1:1-4, 1Cor. 15:28, Col. 1:15-17
 - **b.** Literally, "Who is God over all blessed for ever." or "The One Who is above all, who is God."
 - 1) He is Creator of all things.
 - 2) He is controller of all things.
 - 3) He is provider of everything.
 - 4) He is redeemer reconciled beings.
 - **5**) He is judge of all sinners and saints.
- **4.** Paul acknowledges all these things he has stated, as preparation and the privileges given by God for Israel to receive their Messiah!
 - * Their privilege brought responsibility. Deut. 4:32-35, Psalm 147:19-20

Illustration

Acknowledgment of what is true is the greatest way to maintain passion and commitment to one's oath of love!

* For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more." Lk. 12:48d-h

Application

- 1. Each of us have the high privilege of living in the U.S. a land of freedom, for how much longer we don't know!
 - **a.** Our forefathers had the incredible insight to give us a Republic, not a Democracy.
 - **b.** With three branches of government for check and balances, the legislative, the executive, the judicial.
 - **c.** These are now ignored, abused and misused, being blended together, destroying the protective check and balances.
 - * "Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. Eccl. 8:11
- **2.** Each of us as Americans have the privilege to get educated if we desire to, there is no excuse.
 - **a.** You have to oversee your children's education, to see what they are being taught.

- **b.** You have to question and judge all that is taught to verify it truthfulness of the content.
- **c.** You are at a great advantage, if you know God's word to judge the lies of the world.
 - * "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2Tim. 2:15
- **3.** Each of us as Christians have the incredible privilege of knowing the truth of the Word of God and have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - a. We are to grow in our faith.
 - **b.** We are to develop in our faith.
 - c. We are to mature in our faith.
 - * "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2Tim. 3:16-17
 - **d.** How long have you known Jesus Christ?
 - **e.** Do you know He is God? <u>Jn. 1:1, 14, Phil.</u> 2:5-11, 1Tim. 3:16, 1Jn. 5:20
 - * "Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, "and not that he should **turn** from his ways and live?" Ezk. 18:23

The genuine proclamation of Paul's love was marked by his list of privileges regarding Israel!

Conclusion

We have looked at Paul's genuine proclamation of love for Israel which is verified by three facts.

- I. Paul's oath regarding Israel!
- II. Paul's passion regarding Israel!
- III. Paul's list of privileges regarding Israel!