

Dear Brother Faull:

What about **Romans 9**
and Pre-destination?



ANSWER:

Romans 9 does not teach what Calvinists think it teaches.

God is no respecter of persons. He does not elect one to salvation and another to damnation.

HE DOES ELECT PERSONS FOR SERVICE AND NOT ANOTHER. He did in the past and He does today in the Church. He elected the nation of Israel to be His people for service.

He chose Shem to be the race, Abraham to be the nation of that race, Judah to be the tribe of that nation, Jesse to be the family of that tribe, David to be the house of that family, and Mary to be the individual of that house through whom Messiah would come and BLESS ALL NATIONS.

He did not choose Shem to be saved and Ham and Japheth to be lost.

He did not choose Abraham to be saved and Nahor lost.

He did not choose Judah to be saved and his 11 brothers lost.

He did not choose to save Jesse and damn his brothers, nor did He choose David to salvation and his brothers to be lost.

He did not choose to save Mary and her siblings lost.

HE CHOSE THEM FOR SERVICE, NOT SALVATION!!!

It was through them that the Messiah would come. It was through them that the Incarnate Word would be given.

What advantage hath the Jew? Much every way, chiefly that unto them were committed the oracles of God, to whom pertaineth the adoption, the glory, the covenant, the giving of the Law, the service of God, and the promises. **Romans 3:2** and **Romans 9:4**

Not all of Abraham's seed were chosen for service. The election was Isaac, not Ishmael nor his second wives' children.

Likewise, Jacob was not chosen for salvation over Esau. Jacob was chosen for service. It was not of him that wills or runneth that God gives the privilege of being the chosen vessels of service. He chooses whomsoever He wills to be the one through whom He works.

Sometimes, due to His foreknowledge, He would raise up a particular man to earthly honor and elevate him to be King as he did the Pharaoh of the Exodus. He knew that man. He knew he would resist Him and God would be able to display His power over all the gods of the Egyptians because of their stubbornness.

He did not want to raise up some weak milquetoast at that time that would obey Moses. He raised up this Pharaoh whom God knew would harden his heart and rebel against Him so God could show His power to Israel and the world.

Notice that the first few times it says, "Pharaoh hardened his heart". Then after a few more times when he was really in rebellion, God is said to harden his heart. God provoked him to wrath by His miracles as each one made him more hardened.

It is like a son who is rebellious and hard-hearted already, but when the father puts more on him the father is said to harden the son's heart. God did not have to do anything to him to harden his heart initially. He raised up that particular man because He knew him and that each plague would harden him that much more. He was chosen to be the king so that God could show His power. **Romans 9:17, Exodus 9:16-17**

We have no right to complain that He uses one lump of clay to glory and another lump to dishonor. God, in His mercy, has made us both Jews and Gentiles, to His glory. How? "As many as receive him to them gave he power

(the authority) to become the Sons of God, even those who believe on his name." **John 1:12**

Gentiles can, like Abraham, attain unto the righteousness of faith. The Jews continue to try to be saved by law. They do not seek righteousness by faith, as our father Abraham did, but go about to establish their own righteousness.

Romans 10: 3

Let me illustrate a Biblical election to service:

A sodbuster in 1888 had five kids. He said to his oldest son, "Let's go into town and get some supplies." "But Dad I wanted to go hunting," said the boy. "Well, bring your gun along and we're bound to see something on the way back," said the father.

All the kids wanted to go to the town overnight with them to get the supplies. The father laughed and said, "If I took the whole family there would be no room for the supplies. We will bring back some goodies for all of you. This trip is for all of the family." So they left.

Once they got to town it was evening, as it was a long way to town. The boy was excited because there was a circus in town. He got to see a lot of strange sites, a shooting display, the fat lady, the midget, the elephants and lions and even a ventriloquist. He got to sleep in the hotel and eat in a restaurant. Dad even let him try some of the new fangled ice cream.

The next morning they went to the general store and the boy got to eat some new candy as he helped load the wagon. He had a lot of privileges that the other 4 kids did not have, but Dad had chosen him, not because he loved him more, but he was the strongest. He could help load the wagon and watch for trouble on the way home. He got to shoot a deer on the way home and he and his father lifted the heavy carcass into the wagon.

When they got home, the other kids came running and were given some goodies. The whole family was blessed for the winter because they had gone. Now the older son was chosen for service. It was not that he was the favorite even though he had special opportunities. The whole family was blessed as the father intended them to be all along.

Now note Abraham. "I am going to bless you, make you a great nation, and in thy Seed (Singular, Christ) **ALL** the nations of the earth will be blessed." He was told, "You shall be a blessing." God blessed Abraham and used him to bless all men. When Jesus was born it was said, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to **ALL** people." (Not just an elect few that God chose to save.)

What a damnable, ugly doctrine Calvinism is. God is no respecter of persons. The offer is to **whosoever will**.

Come unto me **All** ye that labor and heavy laden and I will give you rest.

The secret of understanding the Bible is not to use the difficult passage that seems to contradict the simple ones.

The thing to do is to take the simple ones that are plain and try to understand the difficult one. Calvinism likes to use **Romans 9** with their blasphemous doctrine of TULIP and make **John 3:16**, **Mark 16:15-16**, and the great commission and a zillion more that promises salvation to any believer, untrue.

Remember that God chooses specific men and women for service, not salvation. "He's not willing that any should perish but all should come to repentance." **II Peter 3:9**

"He wills all men to be saved." **I Timothy 2:4**