

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: September 15, 2021
Romans 9-11

1. Why is Paul in anguish in 9:2-3?
 - a. He's just kind of a depressed guy.
 - b. I don't know, he was just getting fired up about how nothing can separate us from God's love...this seems like a real turn.
 - c. He is brokenhearted over his people who do not know Christ (9:3, 10:1, 10:16).
 - d. I don't know, since he is the apostle to the Gentiles, you would think he would be happy about their inclusion regardless of what it means for the Jews.

2. What does Paul mean, in 9:6, when he says that "not all who are descended from Israel are Israel" (see 9:8 and Matthew 3:9, Luke 3:8, Galatians 3:7-9) _____

3. Since God seems to have decided in advance who was chosen and who would fall away, how is this fair?
 - a. Well, first of all, according to 9:19-24 God is God and we are incredibly entitled and audacious when we begin questioning his decisions.
 - b. We really do have a skewed understanding of "chosen" and what they (and we) were really chosen for on this earth.
 - c. 9:24 helpfully reminds us that those who are now included (those who have put their faith in Christ) are both Jews and Gentiles by birth. Therefore, although the Jewish people as a whole have not carried on the call for which they were chosen, there are still those who, by faith, have accepted the call.

4. What, then, determines whether or not we are "Israel?"
 - a. It is only God's mercy and grace that enables us to be His (9:16, 11:6).
 - b. Chapter 6 would indicate that it is those of us who've chosen to be identified with Christ in his death and then identified with him in his resurrection to new life.
 - c. We must pursue it by faith and not by works (9:30-32).

5. What do 9:22-27 and 11:18-24 say about our status as God's people?
 - a. If we have strayed, we can be brought back into right standing with God.
 - b. Though we might have been God's people, we can be called not his people.
 - c. Our right standing with God is dependent on our persistence in faith (11:20, 23).

6. These three chapters seems to be a text within a text. What is the message that Paul is trying to get across here?
 - a. He is describing Israel's past, present, and future.
 - b. He is talking about election, rejection, and restoration.
 - c. He is telling people about how God has dealt with and will deal with Israel.

7. What is the significance of this to us? _____
