

SERMON NOTES

Date: October 16, 2016

Title: The Riches of God's Glory (Part 2)

Text: Romans 9:19-29

Big Idea: Paul explains Israel's rejection of Jesus in light of God's sovereignty. Salvation is by God's sovereign grace, not man's free choice.

1. Has God's Word failed? (vs. 6-13)
2. Is God Unjust? (vs. 14-18)
3. Why does God still blame us? (vs. 19-29)

Four counter questions . . .

- "But who are you, O man, to answer back to God?" (v. 20a).
- "Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?" (v. 20b).
- "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?" (v. 21).
- "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?" (vs. 22-24).

1. According to the following verses, what things can we conclude fall under God's sovereignty?
 - Proverbs 16:33
 - Proverbs 21:1
 - Proverbs 19:21; 20:24; James 4:13-15
 - Acts 13:48
 - Deuteronomy 32:39
 - Exodus 4:11
 - Amos 3:6; Isaiah 45:7; Job 1:21-22; 2:10
 - Ephesians 1:11; Daniel 4:35
 - Acts 2:23; 4:27-28
2. Why do some people object to the doctrine of God's sovereignty, and specifically God's sovereignty over suffering and salvation?
3. Is it ever okay to argue with, accuse, or even be angry with God about his sovereignty? Why or why not?
4. Read Job 38-42. How did God respond to Job when he demanded that God answer him (cf. 31:35)?
5. Meditate on Romans 9:20-21. How does this humble you and help you exalt God?
6. How does God's sovereignty provide comfort even in the midst of the most intense suffering?
7. Do you have questions about the doctrine of God's sovereignty in election that you need to wrestle with or find out more about?