

Romans #141

“The Stumbling Block”

Romans 9:27-33 Isaiah 18:1-10

The death of Jesus Christ on the cross saves no one but it provides for the potential for all men to be saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

Reconciliation, redemption and propitiation are not applied until someone believes in Jesus Christ but His death makes it possible for all races, economic levels or genders to be saved.

Today some people believe in Calvinism which teaches that man left to himself would never seek God who extemporaneously chose some for salvation and left others to their own destiny leading to the Lake of Fire.

God’s answer is the message that Job, Abraham, Moses and everyone else cannot begin to understand the depth of the plan of God, the way only God sees it.

God is telling all of us to trust Him all the time and especially when we don’t understand what’s going on.

God so supernaturally directed the writers of Scripture that without waving their human intelligence, individuality, literary style, personal feelings or any other human factor; His own complete coherent message to man was recorded with perfect accuracy in the original languages of Scripture, the very words bearing the authority of divine authorship.

EGYPT’S GODS:

Ra, the god of the sun; Geb and Nut, the god of the earth; Shu, the god of the air; Osiris, the god of the underworld; Isis, the goddess of magic; Set, the god of the desert, storms and evil; Nephthys, the river goddess; Horus, Bast, the goddess of cats; Sobek, the god of crocodiles; Serqet, the goddess of scorpions; Anubis, the god of funerals; Bes, the god of dwarves; Khonsu, god of the moon; Nekhbet, the goddess of vultures; Babi, the god of wild baboons and Tawaret, the goddess of hippos.

Pharaoh’s on the other side, negative and antagonistic to God; rejecting truth and God is giving him what he wants without changing his mind in any way; helping him to stay negative to achieve the end result.

But remember: this has nothing to do with Pharaoh’s eternal salvation, it has to do with a demonstration of the power of the one true God of Heaven over Egypt and her polytheistic religion so the Israelites, Egyptians and the whole world know that God alone has miraculously delivered the Israelites from 400 years of bondage in Egypt.

They’ve made the decision, not God.

In Romans 9, God is talking about His choice of nations or kingdoms in history.

Israel today is lost but she will eventually accept Jesus Christ as Messiah and God has predicted judgment and restoration for her.

We could never determine or influence God’s plan by what we do or don’t do because it’s not based on who or what we are but on who and what God is through His understanding of history.

Pharaoh in his opposition to God becomes a monument to the power of God.

The highest freedom of man is using the grace of God to completely triumph over evil.

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While sin, human good and evil are permitted, they are constantly being overruled by the sovereign omnipotence and divine integrity of God. Therefore, Jesus Christ controls both history and the devil's world and that's the overruling will of God.