

**9:2-3 That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:**

It is possible to have sorrow in your heart and be full of joy and peace. Jesus Christ is the perfect example of this (Isaiah 53:3-4, Psalm 69:20, John 15:10-11, John 14:27).

Why did Paul have continual sorrow? Because Israel, his brethren after the flesh were not saved. He wanted them to be saved so bad, it bothered him continually. He prayed to God always that Israel would be saved (Romans 10:1). In fact, as you read the book of Acts, everywhere Paul went, he went into the synagogues first and preached to his brethren after the flesh.

He said he would rather be accursed from Christ, if that meant Israel would be saved. That is, Paul would rather have himself die in sins not knowing Christ, that Israel might know him. That is the epitome of Christ-likeness.

Parents have this kind of love and charity towards their children. That is normal. A Father and Mother ought to be willing to lay down their life for their children, and most are willing. Paul had that type of affection for his people. He'd rather die in his sins and go to hell, if that meant Israel would see the truth and believe it and be saved.

This is exactly what the Lord Jesus Christ did for us. The Bible says Jesus Christ died for our sins (1 Corinthians 15:3-4) to pay for our sins to appease God's holy wrath (1 John 2:2). He literally gave his life for us. He literally was forsaken by God for a short while on that cross while God placed upon him the sin of the world (Matthew 27:44, Psalm 22, 1 Peter 2:24-25).

If you ever wondered why Jesus was crying and weeping blood in the garden of Gethsemane and was asking the Father if there was another way this could be done its because Jesus did NOT want to become sin BECAUSE HE KNEW THAT WOULD CAUSE HIM TO BREAK FELLOWSHIP WITH THE FATHER WHICH NEVER OCCURRED IN THE HISTORY OF ETERNITY.

When God placed upon Jesus our sin and became sin (2 Corinthians 5:21) the Father forsook Jesus and would not hear him. He became the curse for us (Galatians 3:13-14). He became like the serpent (John 3:14-15, Numbers 21:6-9). The serpent in your Bible is Satan. Jesus became the embodiment of sin on the cross, why? So we would not be lost, so that we would not die in our sins. So he could manifest and magnify his glory, mercy, and lovingkindness.

Yet, Jesus took it even further than that (Matthew 5:40). Jesus went that extra mile, and laid down his life not for his children, and not for his friends, but his enemies!

We all were enemies of God before we were saved (John 8:44, Colossians 1:21-23, Romans 5:6-10, Ephesians 2:1-5). When you were born again God became your Father (John 1:12-13).

**9:4-5 Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.**

## Israel's 7 Blessings

### **1. The Adoption**

- God chose Israel out of all the nations of the world (Genesis 12:1-3, Deuteronomy 7:6-8)
- Through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and the 12 sons of Jacob, came the nation of Israel who God called and set apart from all the other nations (Numbers 23:7-10)
- God calls Israel his son and firstborn (Exodus 4:22-23)

### **2. The Glory**

- Israel is God's earthly people (Exodus 3:10)
- \* The church is God's heavenly / spiritual people (Hosea 1:10, Romans 9:24-26, 1 Peter 2:9-10)
- All of the signs, wonders, miracles, and provision
- The standard of holiness and righteousness they had (Deuteronomy 4:5-8)
- Salvation is of the Jews (John 4:22)
- God is with the Jew (Zechariah 8:20-23)
- God's city is a Jewish city (Jerusalem)
- They gave the world the word of God
- God's heavenly Jerusalem (12 gates have the names of the 12 tribes)
- The Greatest King and Greatest Government will be run by a Jew from Jerusalem in Israel

### **3. The Covenants**

#### *The Abrahamic Covenant*

Circumcision, Blessings and Cursings, land grant – Genesis 12:1-3, 13:14-16, 15:18, 17

#### *The Mosaic Covenant*

\* The Purpose of the Law:

- Galatians 3:19-22: The law served men in that it protected them, preserved them, blessed them if they obeyed, condemned them if they disobeyed.
- Obeying the law gave you the promise of a long life on earth (Deuteronomy 4:1-4, Ephesians 6:2-3)
- It was given them to teach them the ways of a Holy God
- To declare right from wrong
- It was to govern their life in the promised land (Deuteronomy 4:14)
- It was to be a light to the nations around them (Deuteronomy 4:6-8)
- It was to convict men of their sin (Romans 7:7)
- It was to typify and picture the Lord Jesus Christ (John 5:46, 2 Corinthians 3:6-18)

- It was to prepare men for Christ (Galatians 3:24-25)
- Gentiles were never given the law and were never required to keep the law (Acts 15)

### *The Davidic Covenant*

See 2 Samuel 7:11, 1 Chronicles 17:10

### 2 Samuel's Version

(Pertaining to Solomon)

- David's son to build a house for God's name
- God would establish the throne of David's son's kingdom
- He would be his Father and David's son would be God's son.
- Chastisement promised for the sinful son of David who rules
- Mercy would not depart from him
- David's throne established forever

### 1 Chronicles Version

(Pertaining to Christ)

- A *raised up* man from David's seed, which was of David's sons: God would establish that man's kingdom. (Luke 1:68-69, Acts 2:23-32)
- He would build God a house (John 2:15-21, Zechariah 6:12-15, Ephesians 2:19-22)
- God would establish HIS throne forever (Isaiah 9:6-7, Psalm 45:2-7, Hebrews 1:8-9, Revelation 11:15)

### *The New Testament (In Christ's blood)*

See Jeremiah 31:31-34, Matthew 26:28, Hebrews 12:24

### **4. The Giving of the Law**

- The Jews were given the word of God (Romans 3:1-2)
- God didn't speak to any other nation (Psalm 147:19-20)

### **5. The Service of God**

- The ability to approach God through the sacrifices of the Old Testament (Levitical Priesthood)
- prayer, reconciliation, mercy, forgiveness, etc with God through the OT law.

### **6. The Promises**

The promises laid out to the Jew are predominately physical and earthly in nature (the church's promises are entirely spiritual in nature)

Israel's promises - Leviticus 26:3-12, Deuteronomy 28:1-14

The Church's promises - Ephesians 1:1-14

### **7. Bringing forth the Messiah, the Saviour of the World**

Tracing the Promised Seed:

Genesis 3:15, Genesis 12:13, Genesis 49:8-12, Numbers 24:9, 1 Chronicles 17:11-15, Isaiah 7:14, Micah 5:2, Luke 2:4-11