

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at vbc.online/events for more detailed information.
You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting admin@thecrossing.org.

- **New Class: Sharing Good News W/ Jehovah's Witnesses** - Sunday, March 1st @ 9 am
 - Gospel-Centered Parenting Class Begins - Wednesday, March 4th @ 7 pm
 - EXTOL Prayer & Praise - Thursday, March 5th @ 7 pm
 - Young Adults HUME Trip - March 6th - 8th
 - Women's Ministry EQUIP 2020 - Saturday, March 21st @ 8:30 am
 - VBC Spring Co-ed Softball Begins - Tuesday, March 24th @ 6:30 pm
- **Serve Day @ the Arabic Church of Sacramento** - Saturday, March 28th @ 9 am
 - Small Group Leader Training - Saturday, April 4th @ 9 am

GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here!
Scan the QR code below to download our VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at www.vbc.online/new-here

SONGS & SERMONS

- "Desert Song" - Brooke Fraser
- "Let Us See Your Glory" - Valley Bible Worship
- "He's Calling Us" - Dan Gillette
- "King of My Heart" - John Mark McMillan, Sarah McMillan
- "I Am Set Free" - Leslie Jordan

To listen or watch today's message, visit www.vbc.online/media

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.....\$34,979.00
Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$244,853.00

Giving Last Week.....\$17,045.00
Y-T-D Giving.....\$246,664.00

Visit vbc.online/give for more info on ways to give.

ROMANS

THE RELIABILITY OF GOD

02/23/20 | MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE & NATALIE PEARCE | MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MESSAGE NOTES

Has God's Word failed in regard to Israel?
Romans 9:6-13

Understanding the background to Romans 9:6-13:

1. God planned to bring wholeness to humanity through a nation, a people.

Gen. 12:1 Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. **2** And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

2. God reveals His plan in the OT Scriptures.

Rom. 3:1 Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? **2** Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God.

Rom. 9:4 They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. **5** To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

3. Paul expressed deep grief that Israel had rejected their Messiah.

Rom. 9:1 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—**2** that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. **3** For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.



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The resulting issue: has God's Word failed?

1. Absolutely not!

Rom. 9:6a *But it is not as though the word of God has failed.*

2. Here's why - God never promised salvation to all of Abraham's descendants.

a. Example #1: the birth of Isaac was based on God's promise (6b-9).

Rom. 9:6b *For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, 7 and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." 8 This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. 9 For this is what the promise said: "About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son."*

b. Example #2: the stature of Jacob was based on God's choice (10-13).

Rom. 9:10 *And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, 11 though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— 12 she was told, "The older will serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."*

Gen. 17:18 *And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" 19 God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. 20 As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. 21 But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year."*

Luke 14:25 *Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, 26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.*

Why, then, did Israel reject their Messiah?

1. They relied on their ethnicity for their standing before God.

Matt. 3:9 *And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. 10 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.*

2. Thus, they spurned their Messiah because they had no need of what He offered!

Rom. 9:32 *Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 as it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."*

Gen. 15:6 *And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.*

What do we do with this?

1. God's plan cannot be thwarted; He is forever & always reliable!

2. We, the church, are the instrument of God's blessing!

Eph. 2:10 *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*