

A few points and questions to consider:

Romans 9 is seen by many as a difficult passage to study. Because of that, some study materials skip it completely or only give it a cursory review. Jot down below some of the reasons you have found this passage difficult. This could be from past studies of this passage or struggles you still have today.

As Pastor Brad mentioned in his introductory comments, one of the keys to careful study of God's Word is to approach it humbly. We must realize He is God and we are not; nor are His ways our ways (Is 55:8-9). He is the LORD; He is sovereign and His Word endures forever (Is 40:8). We should approach each passage with our mind and heart open, allowing Him through the Spirit to speak directly to us from His Word.

The enduring work of His Word is necessary for our salvation (Rom 10:17) and our maturing as we grow in faith (Heb 4:12; Jn 17:17). Reflect for a moment on specific ways God has used His Word to continually – possibly in very small increments – reveal Himself to you.

We've already acknowledged that God's ways are not our ways; that He is truth, and His Word is true. There are times when we read His Word and see truths that appear to be in conflict but – since He and His word are true – the truths stand on their own and in support of one another. This is referred to as an antinomy. The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines antinomy as “a contradiction between two apparently equally valid principles or between inferences correctly drawn from such principles.” This may come to the forefront in this passage as we consider Paul describing God's work in the nation of Israel and in the lives of individuals that would lead to the coming of Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah who would make salvation / justification available to anyone who accepts Him in faith. How has this study of Romans and your study of other scripture helped you to accept all of the truths Paul shares?

Reflect on God's work in your own life. Are there personal antinomies that you see as He has called and sanctified you in your walk with Christ?

Lastly, spend a time of prayer, reflection and worship as you remind yourself of the awesome and unfathomable God we serve!

Scripture Reading for July 1 Bible Study: Romans 10:5-11:10

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Once again, we encourage you to dig a little deeper into this passage by preparing a HEAR Report. As noted in previous weeks, HEAR is an acronym for Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond.

- Read thru this passage and HIGHLIGHT a verse(s) that you found especially powerful.
- EXPLAIN the verse. What was the context and purpose for what was written and when it was written.
- APPLY the verse to yourself
- Lastly, RESPOND to the verse. Maybe there are changes God wants you to make in your life w.r.t. the verse. Or your response may be a prayer to God. It may be praising Him. However you feel led to respond.

As has been pointed out by others, the goal isn't for you / me to jot down a "profound truth" but to note the "truth you found."

Please email us and let us know how this passage spoke to you. Also let us know if you have any general comments, suggestions, etc. for this midweek Bible study program. *We want and need to hear from you.* Email address: [connect@madisonavenuebc.org](mailto:connect@madisonavenuebc.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

H.E.A.R. REPORT for \_\_\_\_\_ (Bible passage).

Highlight a verse(s)

Explain what the text means.

Possible questions to consider: *Why was this written? To whom was it originally written? How does it fit with the verses immediately before and after it? Why did the Holy Spirit include this passage in the book? What is He intending to communicate through this text?*

Apply "the significance of these verses to you personally"

Possible questions to consider: *How can this help me? What does this mean to me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What does this mean to me? How does this apply to my family, my church family, my community? What is God saying to me?*

Respond

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Matthew 7:7 (ESV), "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Source: Growing Up, Robby Gallaty