

Application Questions

Sunday, July 14, 2019

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Israel's Unbelief

1. In your own words, try to describe the big problem that Paul is addressing in Romans 9–11. In your own words, also describe why it's such a big problem.
2. In Romans 9:1–29, Paul insists that God is sovereign in salvation. In Romans 9:30–10:4, he also insists that humans are responsible. Do you struggle with these two truths? If so, describe your struggle. Also, how do these two truths—set side-by-side—help you better appreciate how Paul concludes Romans 9–11 (see 11:33–36)?
3. Are there places in your life where it's hard for you to trust the Bible? How might what Paul says in Romans 9:30–10:4 serve to strengthen your faith in God's word?
4. In Romans 10:2–3, Paul says that ignorance—not knowing something we should—can keep even zealous religious people from salvation. Does this surprise you? What does it say about the value God places on correctly understanding his word? What does it say about the value *you* place on correctly understanding God's word?
5. Are there people in your life about whom you could say what Paul says in Romans 10:1 and in Romans 9:2? If so, who are they? (In fact, jot down their names on your prayer list.) If not, why not?
6. Paul tells us in Romans 10:4 that Jesus is the “end of the law for righteousness.” Jesus gives relief to all who try to fix their broken relationship with God on their own. Can you think of ways you tried to find the ‘good life’—to live as you were made to live—before you were a Christian? Can you think of ways your unbelieving friends pursue? In your own words, try to explain how Jesus gave you relief. How he could give them relief.