

The Book of Romans 9:1-5

Key Phrases

- ✓ *I am not lying*: The apostle would not say or do anything simply for the sake of expediency or to make a _____.
- ✓ *Conscience*: The inner sense of right and wrong that guides _____ conduct.
- ✓ *Great sorrow and continual grief*: Feelings of sadness and loss that we should all have for those who _____.
- ✓ *Accursed*: Devoted to _____; eternally separated from God's blessing.
- ✓ *Israelites*: Descendants of Jacob, _____ by God to be His special people.
- ✓ *Gentiles*: _____ people.
- ✓ *Covenants*: Binding agreements between God and his people, promising _____ and _____.
- ✓ *Law*: The Mosaic Law, given to Israel as a guide for living and a means of revealing _____.
- ✓ *Fathers*: The founding fathers of the _____ nation, particularly Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the main emotional struggle Paul expresses in Romans 9:1-3? How should his struggle challenge us?
2. Consider the theological implications of Paul's statement that he could wish himself accursed from Christ for the sake of his brethren. What does this statement reveal about his understanding of salvation and God's love?
3. Consider the role of the Holy Spirit in shaping the conscience of a believer. How does this concept relate to Paul's assertion of the reliability of his own conscience?
4. What analogy does Paul use to describe his willingness to sacrifice for the salvation of his fellow Jews? How do the implications of this expression impact what we do as believers? How do they impact what we do as a church?
5. Why is the human conscience not always a reliable guide, according to the text? How does this differ from the message of the world?
6. What is the tragic irony of the blessings bestowed upon Israel, as highlighted in this passage? In what ways can this be seen in the church today?
7. What is the significance of Paul's emphasis on Christ as "over all, God blessed forever." How does this declaration relate to the overall message of Romans and Paul's understanding of Jesus' identity?