

Stumbling Stone

Introduction

- Paul in Chapter 9 is presenting the two-sided coin of God's choice
 - God choosing Israel as the promised earthly nation to receive His blessings
 - God is choosing those who will receive Christ righteousness by faith to become God's elect, the bride of Christ, the church of Jesus Christ.

I. The First Question – (30-31) How can we sum this up?

A. The Gentiles are being made righteous by faith – (30)

1. Not after righteousness
 - a. They did not pursue God's holiness
 - b. They were filled with unrighteousness
2. Have attained righteousness –
 - a. Not a righteousness of their own
 - b. The righteousness of Christ
 - 1) Romans 9:16
 - 2) Titus 3:5
3. Righteousness is of faith
 - a. Not through our blood line - John 1:12-13
 - b. Only attained by faith in Christ

B. The Jews are continually missing the law by their works - (31)

1. Jews followed the law for their righteousness
2. They did not make it! – Came up short - Romans 3:23

II. The Second Question – (32) How could they miss it?

A. Not of faith – (31a) “Because they sought it not by faith”

B. Works of the law – (31b)

1. The law is spiritual and we are carnal.
2. Romans 7:12-14

C. Stumbled at the stumbling stone

III. Isaiah's answer – (33) - Isaiah 28:16

A. Stumbling stone is Jesus!

B. Laid in Zion

1. Drawing the Jews attention to the person of Christ
2. An Old Testament reference to the Messiah in Isaiah 28:16

C. Rock of offence

1. He exposed their hypocrisy
2. He offended them by His own righteousness

D. Requirement – (33) “**and whosoever believeth on him**”

1. 1 John 5:11-12
2. John 11:25
3. John 3:16