

ROMANS 9:1-5 – A PASSION FOR PEOPLE

Session 2 - by Abri Brancken, 3 Sept 2017

SCRIPTURES

Romans 9:1-5

I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen[a] according to the flesh, who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.

INTRODUCTION

How much do you care about others? What are you willing to do to see others saved? Will you go through the trouble of inviting them to a service or a life group? Do you allocate time to invite people to your house for a meal so that you can share Jesus with them? What is the price, time, energy you are willing to pay to see others saved? Have you spent any time this week whatsoever focusing on the needs of others? Sadly, for many Christians, people are not high on their priority list.

PAUL WAS REJECTED BY HIS OWN PEOPLE - SCRIPTURES

Paul was rejected by his own people. They saw him as a deserter because of his message. Paul's gentile focus brought him great rejection from the Jews. He often preached in the Synagogues and they rejected him and his message. Let's look at some Scriptures confirming this statement. The Jews of Paul's day considered him to be a traitor.

Acts 9:29

And he was talking and arguing with the Hellenistic Jews; but they were attempting to put him to death.

Acts 13:50

But the Jews incited the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district.

Acts 14:19

But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.

Acts 18:12

But while Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat,

Acts 22:22

They listened to him up to this statement, and then they raised their voices and said, "Away with such a fellow from the earth, for he should not be allowed to live!"

Acts 23:10

And as a great dissension was developing, the commander was afraid Paul would be torn to pieces by them and ordered the troops to go down and take him away from them by force, and bring him into the barracks.

2 Corinthians 11:24

Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes

CHAPTER AND VERSES IN THE BIBLE

Remember that in the Greek and Hebrew documents there are no chapter and verses divisions. Paul is following a line of thought here and often we miss it because we switch in our minds from chapter 8 to 9, thinking that Paul is switching to a different topic.

NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM GOD'S LOVE

Romans 8:38

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I WISH I COULD BE CUT OFF FOR MY BROTHERS

Paul was so deeply concerned with the fact that his people were lost that he said he is willing to give up his own salvation if only his people the Jews can be saved.

THREE PEOPLE HAD SUCH A LOVE AND CONCERN FOR PEOPLE

We find two people willing to give up their own salvation for the sake of others.

- **Paul**

- Romans 9:3**

- For I could wish that I myself were accursed (cut off) from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, who are Israelites...

- **Moses** (after Israel made the golden calf)

- Exodus 32:32**

- But now, please forgive their sin--but if not, then blot me out of the book you have written."

- **Jesus**

- Luke 23:34**

- Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.

Moses & Paul could not save them, only Jesus could, but their passion, desire and what they were willing to sacrifice in order to see their people saved was truly amazing.

Do you have a desire for the wellbeing of God's people? Can you say what Paul said in Romans 9:3?

We should be burdened for the salvation of lost souls because the love of Christ and the love of God's truth impel us.

If you don't have a heart for the lost, let's ask God to give us one. Those who want to pray with me can do so.

PRAYER

Father God, I know that you love me. Jesus Christ gave His life so that I can have a relationship with You. I want to understand and feel Your heart for people. Please forgive me for not loving and caring for people. Help me and use me to touch the lives of others. I make my time, abilities and my resources available for You to use. This week, use me in the lives of people. I am an instrument in Your hands! In Jesus Name, Amen.