



*PAUL'S LETTER TO THE*  
*Romans*  
**Romans 9:6-13**  
**It's Grace, Not Race That Matters!**  
by Eric Douma  
Gospel of Grace Fellowship  
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**Not All Israel Is Elect**

Romans 9:6-7 NRSV It is not as though the word of God had failed. **For not all Israelites truly belong to Israel,** <sup>7</sup> and not all of Abraham's children are his true descendants; but "It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you."

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**What Is Israel in Verse 6?**



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### Not All Israel Is of the Elect

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### The Elect Are Children of Promise

Romans 9:8-9 That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants. 9 For this is the word of promise: "AT THIS TIME I WILL COME, AND SARAH SHALL HAVE A SON."

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### God's Grace, Not Race

Romans 9:10-13 And not only this, but there was Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our father Isaac; 11 for though the twins were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls, 12 it was said to her, "THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER." 13 Just as it is written, "JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED."

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### Applications

1. We must affirm that all believers are “true Israel” while still affirming promises for national Israel.
2. We must know that God’s sovereign choice to save some is determined purely by God’s good pleasure.

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### Uses of Israel

1. Israel as ethnic descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: Rom. 9:4
2. Israel as elect Israelites within the wider group of ethnic Israel: Rom. 9:6
3. Israel as every believer – Jew and Gentile: Rom. 2:28-29; Gal. 4:28; 6:16; Phil. 3:3

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### All Believers as “Israel”

Galatians 6:15-16 For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.  
16 And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them and upon the Israel of God.

Philippians 3:3 ...for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh...

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### Israel as Ethnic Israel

Romans 11:26-28 and so **all Israel will be saved**; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB." 27 "THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS." 28 From the standpoint of the gospel **they are enemies for your sake**, but from the standpoint of God's choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers...

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### Salvation Is by Grace Alone

Romans 9:11 ...for though the twins were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, **not because of works but because of Him who calls.**

John 1:13 ...who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, **but of God.**

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