

(5) GOD'S ELECTION: *Romans 9-11***Welcome**

- Christianity in Rome: Rom 1:1-17
- The letter as a whole: Rom 1-16
- Need of grace: Rom 1-4
- Gift of grace: Rom 5-8
- **Jews and Gentiles: Rom 9-11**
- Grace in practice: Rom 12:1-15:6
- Conclusion: Rom 15:7-33; 16
- Romans for today's church

Introduction to the discussion of the relationship between Jews and Christians.

- Today
- In the course of Christian history
- At the beginning: Paul, John, Matthew, Acts – Jesus?
- In Romans, specifically: failure among the Jews, success among the Gentiles
- The precisely *theological* nature of the question

(A) IS THIS A UNIT OF ARGUMENT?

Frame (1) (only occurrences of the word covenant in Romans)

Rom. 9:4 They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the **covenants**, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;

Rom. 11:27 “And this is my **covenant** with them,
when I take away their sins.”

Frame (2)

Rom. 9:5 to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed **forever. Amen.**

Rom. 11:36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory **forever. Amen.**

Vocabulary (1) : seed and children; vocabulary (2).

Rom. 9:7 and not all of Abraham's **children** are his true **descendants**; but “It is through Isaac that **descendants** shall be named for you.” § This means that it is not the **children** of the flesh who are the **children** of God, but the **children** of the promise are counted as **descendants**.

Rom. 9:29 And as Isaiah predicted,
“If the Lord of hosts had not left **survivors** to us,
we would have fared like Sodom
and been made like Gomorrah.”

Rom. 11:1 I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a **descendant** of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. Likewise, the following figures occur only here: *Sarah, Jacob, Esau, Moses, Abraham, Hosea, Benjamin, Elijah, and Israelite.*

(B) WHAT STEPS ARE THERE IN THE ARGUMENT?

Introduction 9:1-5

Proof	9:6-11:32
A Proof	9:6-29
B Proof	9:30-10:21
A* Proof	11:1-32
Conclusion	11:33-36

(C) WHAT ARE THE KEY TEXTS, IN EACH SECTION, ALONG THE WAY?

9:6 It is not as though the word of God had failed.

10:4 For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

11:1 I ask, then, has God rejected his people?

(D) HOW FAR HAVE WE GOT IN THE ARGUMENT?

Romans 1-8	Romans 9-11	Romans 12-15
Inclusion of the <i>Gentiles</i> ("Rejection of Israel")	Inclusion of Israel	Exhortation: "Live inclusively"

Pointers for Prayer

1. *My own accompaniment of those who struggle with tragedy can help me enter the text here, perhaps.*
2. *How do I experience the mystery of God using what is negative to create what is positive?*
3. *The advice of not to be too sure of yourself is "hard advice" — perhaps quite hard for Catholics to hear institutionally?!*