

**OBJECTIONS TO GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY**  
**ROMANS 9:14-23**  
**7/27/25**

**I. RECAP - GOD HAS MADE A SOVEREIGN CHOICE**

**A. God is God and we are not**

**II. OBJECTION – IS GOD UNJUST IN CHOOSING?**

*Romans 9:14-18 - "What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means!<sup>15</sup> For he says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.'<sup>16</sup> So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.<sup>17</sup> For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, 'For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.'<sup>18</sup> So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills."*

**A. God's choice is rooted in His mercy**

- Mercy is withholding what we deserve

*Romans 3:10 - "...as it is written: 'None is righteous, no, not one...'"*

*Romans 1:18 - "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth."*

- We all deserve God's wrath

**B. How does God choose?**

- "Not on human will or effort"

**C. Why does God choose?**

- To reveal His glory

**III. OBJECTION – THIS ISN'T FAIR**

*Romans 9:19-23 - "You will say to me then, 'Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?'<sup>20</sup> But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, 'Why have you made me like this?'<sup>21</sup> Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?<sup>22</sup> What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,<sup>23</sup> in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory."*

**A. This is rooted in Spiritual Pride**

- Pride – “God owes me an explanation”
- Pride – “God is harsh for not saving everyone”

**B. What if...God’s plan was greater**

**IV. OUR RESPONSE – TRUST AND OBEY**

**COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What did you think about the message this week? What is something that stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. How does better understanding God’s merciful choice encourage you to worship Him?
3. Why is it important for us to remind ourselves that God is God and we are not?
4. How does believing that God has a sovereign plan...even when you don’t understand it...affect your response to suffering or unanswered prayer?
5. What are some ways that we can deepen our trust in God and His sovereign plan and choices?
6. How does knowing that you are a “vessel of mercy” encourage the way you live in the world? What are some practical ways to demonstrate mercy in your life?
7. How can a passage like this encourage us as we share our faith with others?
8. What is one thing from the message or the group this week that you want to live out? How can the group help you do that?