

# Fulfilled Prophecies

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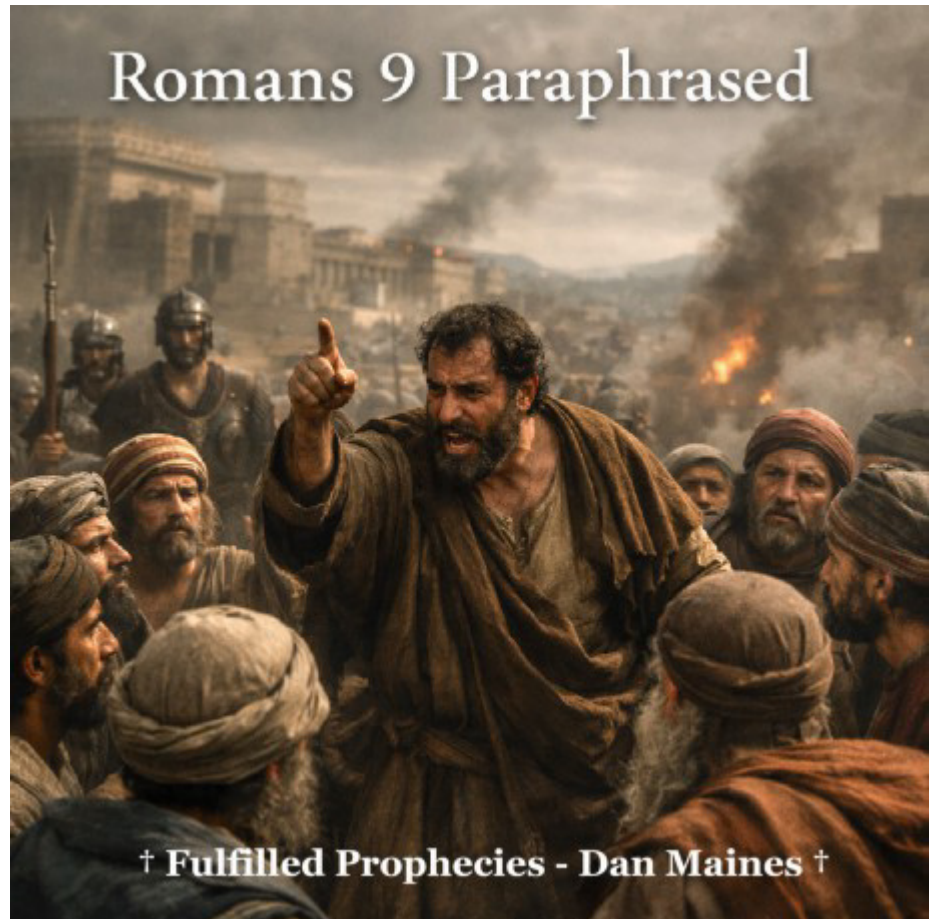
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## Romans 9 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

## Romans 9 Paraphrased

### Introduction

† Paul is dealing with Israel, the promises, and why many of them didn't believe, this isn't about random individuals but about covenant purpose

† The focus is on how God brought His plan through Israel and opened it to the nations, fulfilled in their generation

### Romans 9:1

I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit

† Paul begins with deep sincerity, this isn't theory, it's a burden he feels

† The Spirit confirms his concern for Israel's condition, not their future destiny

### **Romans 9:2**

I have great sorrow and constant grief in my heart

† Israel's unbelief grieves him because they were first given the promises

† This shows the issue is covenant rejection, not a failure of God's plan

### **Romans 9:3**

I could wish that I myself were cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my relatives according to the flesh

† Paul is speaking of physical Israel, his own people

† This highlights the seriousness of their rejection during that generation

### **Romans 9:4**

They are Israelites, to them belong adoption, glory, covenants, law, temple service, and promises

† All covenant privileges belonged to Israel

† This shows why judgment fell when they rejected Christ

### **Romans 9:5**

From them are the fathers, and from them came Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever

† Christ came through Israel, fulfilling everything given to them

† Yet many still rejected Him, showing the issue is not God's faithfulness

### **Romans 9:6**

It is not as though God's word has failed, not all who are descended from Israel are truly Israel

† This is the key, true Israel is defined by promise, not flesh

† Fulfillment shows a separation between physical lineage and covenant identity (Galatians 4:28)

### **Romans 9:7**

Nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but through Isaac your descendants will be named

† God always worked through chosen lines, not all physical offspring

† This establishes covenant purpose, not favoritism

### **Romans 9:8**

That means the children of the flesh are not children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants

† The promise defines who belongs, not physical birth

† This prepares for the inclusion of the nations

### **Romans 9:9**

For this is the word of promise, at this time I will come and Sarah will have a son

† Isaac was born by promise, not human effort

† This shows how God fulfills His plan

### **Romans 9:10**

Not only this, but Rebecca also conceived by one man, our father Isaac

† Paul continues showing God's selective covenant purpose

† This isn't about individuals but the line of promise

### **Romans 9:11**

Before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose would stand

† The focus is on God's plan, not personal merit

† This is about covenant roles, not eternal destiny

### **Romans 9:12**

It was said, the older will serve the younger

† This was about nations, not individual salvation (Genesis 25:23)

† God chose the line through which promise would come

### **Romans 9:13**

Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated

† This is covenant language, meaning preference for purpose

† It refers to nations, Israel and Edom, not personal hatred

### **Romans 9:14**

What shall we say then, there is no injustice with God, is there

† Paul addresses the objection directly

† God's choices are about fulfilling His plan, not unfairness

### **Romans 9:15**

I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion

† God shows mercy according to His covenant purpose

† Mercy isn't earned, it's given through His plan

### **Romans 9:16**

So it does not depend on the one who wills or runs, but on God who shows mercy

† Covenant inclusion is not based on human effort

† It's fulfilled through Christ, not law-keeping

### **Romans 9:17**

Scripture says to Pharaoh, for this purpose I raised you up, to show My power

† Pharaoh's role served God's purpose in history

† This is about demonstrating power, not forcing unbelief

### **Romans 9:18**

So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires

† Hardening is judicial, it happens after rejection (Exodus 8:15)

† Israel was hardened in the same way in that generation

(Romans 11:7-8)

### **Romans 9:19**

You will say to me then, why does He still find fault

† This reflects the objection from Israel

† They resisted yet blamed God

### **Romans 9:20**

Who are you, man, to answer back to God

† Paul reminds them of God's authority

† The issue is covenant position, not personal injustice

### **Romans 9:21**

Does the potter not have authority over the clay

† Israel is the clay in this context (Isaiah 64:8)

† God reshapes covenant roles as He fulfills His plan

### **Romans 9:22**

What if God endured vessels of wrath prepared for destruction

† These are those rejecting Christ in that generation

† Destruction refers to the judgment coming in AD 70

### **Romans 9:23**

And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy

† The vessels of mercy include both Jews and Gentiles in Christ

† This is the fulfilled new covenant people

### **Romans 9:24**

Even us, whom He also called, not from Jews only, but also from Gentiles

† This is the one new man (Ephesians 2:14-16)

† The dividing wall was removed in their time

### **Romans 9:25**

I will call those who were not My people, My people

† This is Hosea fulfilled in the inclusion of the nations

† The Gentiles were brought into covenant identity

## **Romans 9:26**

They will be called sons of the living God

† The nations now share in the promises

† This was fulfilled in the first century church

## **Romans 9:27**

Though the number of Israel is like the sand, only the remnant will be saved

† Only a remnant believed in that generation

† This matches the destruction of Jerusalem

## **Romans 9:28**

The Lord will execute His word quickly

† This points to imminent judgment

† Fulfilled in AD 70

## **Romans 9:29**

Unless the Lord had left us offspring, we would have become like Sodom

† The remnant preserved covenant continuity

† Without them, Israel would have been completely cut off

## **Romans 9:30**

Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness attained it

† The nations received righteousness through faith

† This fulfilled the promise to Abraham

## **Romans 9:31**

But Israel pursuing law did not arrive at righteousness

† They relied on law instead of Christ

† This led to their downfall

## **Romans 9:32**

Because they did not pursue it by faith but as though by works

† The stumbling was rejecting Christ

† Faith was the only way into the new covenant

## **Romans 9:33**

Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling, and the one who believes will not be disappointed

† Christ was the stumbling stone for Israel

† Those who believed entered the fulfilled promise

### **Historical References**

† Josephus records the destruction of Jerusalem and the fall of unbelieving Israel in AD 70

† Eusebius confirms the early church understood these events as fulfillment of prophecy

† Irenaeus speaks of the transition from old covenant Israel to the church

† Clement of Alexandria teaches the fulfillment of the law in Christ

### **How It Applies To Us Today**

† We are not defined by flesh but by promise fulfilled in Christ

† The dividing wall is gone, we live in the one new man

† God's plan was completed, we live in its fulfillment

† Faith is the foundation, not law or lineage

### **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** Is Romans 9 about individual salvation

**A** No, it is about covenant roles and God's plan through Israel (Romans 9:6)

**Q** Does Jacob and Esau mean personal election

**A** No, it refers to nations and covenant purpose (Genesis 25:23)

**Q** What are vessels of wrath

**A** Those in Israel who rejected Christ and faced judgment (Romans 9:22)

**Q** Who are the vessels of mercy

**A** Believers, both Jew and Gentile, in Christ (Romans 9:24)

**Q** When was this fulfilled

**A** In the first century, culminating in AD 70 (Romans 9:28)

# † This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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## Source Index

† Romans 9

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

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