

## The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

Can you trust the Bible as the word of God,  
and the promises it contains?

## Romans 9:1-11:36

Israel and the Promise of God

"But it is not as though the word of God has failed."

(Romans 9:6a)

<sup>6</sup> But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For they are not all Israel who are from Israel;

<sup>7</sup> nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED."

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> For this is the word of promise: "AT THIS TIME I WILL COME, AND SARAH SHALL HAVE A SON."

<sup>10</sup> And not only this, but there was Rebekah also, when she had conceived *twins* by one man, our father Isaac;

<sup>11</sup> for though *the twins* were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to election might stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls,

<sup>12</sup> it was said to her, "THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER."

<sup>13</sup> Just as it is written, "JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED."

(Romans 9:6-13)

## Children of the Promise

- The creation of *true* Israel is only by the word of promise, not according to the flesh or works but God's free mercy

## Children of the Promise

1. Flesh does not make children of God
  - being a physical descendant of Abraham does not in itself ensure participation in salvation-blessing
  - "children of flesh" (e.g. Ishmael) are not children of God – no human effort or work involved

## Children of the Promise

2. The word of promise creates children of God
  - like Isaac, children of God are the product of God's sovereign grace in fulfillment of His promise
  - God produces His children in a manner that magnifies Him as God and the freedom of His mercy

## Children of the Promise

- Implications:
  - 1) Israelites, presently, are children of the flesh only, under the judgment of God in keeping with His word
  - 2) We, Gentiles, by faith in Christ, are children of the promise, the "seed" of Abraham (only by the freedom of God's mercy and power!)