

VOLITION, FREE WILL
ILLUSTRATION: ESAU AND JACOB
Romans 9:11-14

1. This category explains Romans 9:14 - "Is there unrighteousness with God?"
2. The alternatives of volition toward Christ are given in John 3:36, "everlasting life," and the "wrath of God."
 - A. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."
3. The difference between Jacob and Esau is not good and evil, but Jacob became a believer, he used positive volition, and Esau did not, he used negative volition.
4. The Lord Jesus Christ died for both Esau and Jacob. 1 John 2:2, "And He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world." Obviously then if Christ died exactly for both, He did the exact same thing for both Esau and Jacob on the cross, then the difference between them is their own decision. They had free will.
5. The sovereignty of God expresses itself through righteousness and justice in judgment. Therefore when God judges, His judgment is perfect.
 - A. Psalm 18:30, "As for God, His way is perfect: the Word of the Lord is tried: He is a Buckler to all those who trust in Him."
6. Esau was the recipient of the expression of God's sovereignty through His righteousness and justice because he exercised negative volition in regard to the cross, where righteousness and justice were satisfied.
7. The sovereignty of God also expresses itself through love and eternal life. This is Operation GRACE.
8. Jacob was the recipient of GRACE because he exercised positive volition in regard to the Lord Jesus Christ.
9. The sovereignty of God expresses itself toward Esau, an unbeliever, in terms of judgment and is declared in terms of "I have hated." God's will.
 - A. 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
10. The sovereignty of God expresses itself to Jacob, a believer, in love and eternal life, and is declared in terms of "Jacob have I loved."
11. God's sovereignty chose to deal with Jacob in love and with Esau in judgment (hate), because of the choice that each of them made with regard to the cross. Free will choice.
12. God in His omniscience knew billions of years ago that Esau would be an unbeliever and that Jacob would be a believer. Therefore He simply expresses the direction of His sovereignty. God is free to save all who believe in Christ. God is free to judge all who reject Christ.

13. Romans 9:11, "Purpose of God according to election." This was God's plan of salvation and GRACE to be extended to the human race. Christ was elected and believers share His election.
 - A. Isaiah 42:1, "Behold My Servant, whom I uphold, Mine Elect, in whom My soul delighteth; I have put My Spirit upon Him: He shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles."
 - B. 1 Peter 2:4, 6, "To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious. Wherefore also it is contained in the Scripture, Behold, I lay in Zion a chief Corner Stone, elect, precious: and He that believeth on Him shall not be confounded."

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