

Does God Play Favorites?

In Romans 9, what is meant by “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated”?

- Does this mean that God shows favoritism and partiality?
 - If so, then it would seem that He is *not fair*.
- Does this mean that God pre-favored Jacob and God pre-rejected Esau before they were born?
 - If so, then it would seem that He is *not just*.
- Does this have salvation implications? Does God elect certain favored people as preselected to be saved, and others are not to be?
 - If so, then it would seem that He is *not love*.

Verses 1 – 3: Paul’s Heartbreak and Noble Desire for His Countrymen

Exodus 32:31 – 33

31 So Moses returned to the LORD and said, “Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold.

32 But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.”

33 But the LORD said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against me, I will blot out of my book.

Galatians 3:13 - 14

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—

14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Verses 4 – 5: Eight Unique Benefits of Israel

1. The Adoption
2. The Glory
3. The Covenants
4. The Law
5. The Worship (Service)
6. The Promises
7. The Patriarchs
8. The Ancestral Line of Christ

God is Blessed Forever. Amen.

KJV Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

NAS whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

RSV to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ. God who is over all be blessed forever. Amen.

Romans 1:25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.



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Verses 6 – 9: “they are not all Israel, which are of Israel.” After all, just look at Abraham’s Kids

Romans 2:28 - 29

28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Genesis 17:18 - 19

18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

Verses 10 – 12: “not... works but because of him who calls” After all, just look at Isaac’s Kids

Genesis 25:22 – 23

22 The children struggled together within her, and she said, “If it is thus, why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of the LORD.

23 And the LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger.”

Verse 13: Quoting Malachi, in reference to the nations more than a thousand years later

Malachi 1:1 – 5

1 The oracle of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

2 “I have loved you,” says the LORD. But you say, “How have you loved us?” “Is not Esau Jacob's brother?” declares the LORD. “Yet I have loved Jacob

3 but Esau I have hated. I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert.”

4 If Edom says, “We are shattered but we will rebuild the ruins,” the LORD of hosts says, “They may build, but I will tear down, and they will be called ‘the wicked country,’ and ‘the people with whom the LORD is angry forever.’”

5 Your own eyes shall see this, and you shall say, “Great is the LORD beyond the border of Israel!”

Ezekiel 33:11 Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Romans 2:7 - 11

to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality,
he will give eternal life;

but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness,
there will be wrath and fury.

There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil,
the Jew first and also the Greek,

but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good,
the Jew first and also the Greek.

For God shows no partiality.

