

SERIES: THE ROMAN ROAD

Romans 9:18-24

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Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

God <u>wills</u> to have mercy on those who are humble and accepting of His ways.

God wills to harden those who have hard hearts and are unwilling to humble themselves to follow His ways.

Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 42:1; Exodus 33:3-7

Mercy is when God temporarily holds back judgment from proud people who deserve it so as to give them time to repent. 2 Peter 3:9

Grace from the Lord is <u>not deserved</u> but is given to those who humble themselves with repentance and faith in His promise. *Ephesians 1:13*

God has always <u>resisted</u> the proud and <u>given</u> grace to the humble *Proverbs 3:34; Isaiah 57:15; Matt. 5:3; Luke 14:11; James 4:6*

God <u>wills</u> to have mercy on nations who are humble and accepting of His ways.

God <u>wills</u> to harden already hardened nations who are unwilling to humble themselves to follow His ways.

Romans 9

19 You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?"

20 But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?"

Isaiah 29:15-16; Isaiah 45:9-17; Isaiah 64:8-9 Jeremiah 18:1-17: 19:5

Romans 9

- **21** Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?
- 22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,
- 23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,
- **24** even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?