



**PRAY!**  
Passionately Praying for the Perishing • Part 1  
Lesson 18 • Romans 10:1

Lingering Questions Leftover from Romans 9

**Philosophical (Theological/Doctrinal) Questions in Romans 9**

- Is God's sovereign, unconditional choice **FAIR**? (9:14-18)
- Does God's sovereign, unconditional choice lead to **FATALISM**? (9:19-29)
- Does God's sovereign, unconditional choice eliminate the need for **FAITH**? (9:30-33)

**Practical (Emotional/Psychological) Questions in Romans 10**

- Is there any need for **PAIN** over the plight of the lost? (Burden for the Lost)
- Is there any need for **PASSION** for the lost to be saved? (Desire for the Lost to Be Saved)
- Is there any need to **PRAY** for their salvation? (Intercession for the Lost)
- Is there any need to **PREACH** the gospel to them? (Evangelism of the Lost)
- Is there any need to passionately **PURSUE** the salvation of all peoples? (Missions to the Lost)

Romans 9:1-3	PAUL'S HEART for the LOST	Romans 10:1
A <b>Pain-filled</b> Heart: Paul Shares His Personal Pain		A <b>Passion-filled</b> Heart: Paul Shares His Passionate Prayer
An <b>Aching</b> Heart: Paul Loves So Much It Hurts		An <b>Asking</b> Heart: Paul Wants It So Bad He Seeks Help
A <b>Grieving</b> Heart: Paul Bleeds with Sincerity		A <b>Giving</b> Heart: Paul Intercedes with Specificity
A <b>Sacrificial</b> Heart: "I would do it if I could..."		A <b>Supplicating</b> Heart: "I will it as much as I can..."
A <b>Burdened</b> Heart: Paul Is Heartbroken for the Hell-bent		A <b>Believing</b> Heart: Paul Passionately Prays for the Perishing

**Three Ways the Question of "Why Pray If God Is So Sovereign Over Salvation? Has Been Addressed**

- Some reject the doctrinal teaching of unconditional election in order to uphold the practical commands of pursuing the lost. (Evangelical Arminiana)
- Some reject the practical commands of pursuing the lost in order to uphold the doctrinal teaching of unconditional election (and the unbiblical doctrine of unconditional reprobation). (Hyper-Calvinists)
- Some uphold both the doctrinal teaching of unconditional election and the practical commands to pursue the lost. (Evangelical Calvinists)

**Prayer Is Where God's Sovereignty and Our Responsibility Intersect in Intercession for the Lost**

"Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved."

**1. Pray to OUR SOVEREIGN SAVIOR. (or GOD WHO IS AMAZINGLY MERCIFUL)**

"... my...prayer to God..."

**Five Reasons Why We Should Pray to Our Sovereign God**

- 1) We **DON'T KNOW** who God unconditionally elects to salvation in His hidden will. *Deuteronomy 29:29; 30:11-14; Isaiah 55:8-9*
- 2) We **DO KNOW** what God commands us to be and do in His revealed will. *1Timothy 2:1-6; Colossians 4:2-6*
- 3) We do know God ordains **THE MEANS** as well as the end. *Romans 10:1, 14-17*

- 4) We do know Jesus taught His disciples to pray for things that **ONLY** God knew about and that He had **ALREADY** predestined would happen. *Matthew 6:9-10; Romans 11:25-26*
- 5) We do know that God's champions (biblical and historical) prayed for the lost, even those who were strong on God's sovereignty.

## 2. Pray to Our Sovereign Savior FOR THE LOST.

"...my...prayer to God for them..."

- Paul prays for **LOST PEOPLE** to be saved.
- Paul prays for lost people who he knows are **HARDENED** as a nation.
- Paul prays for **ALL** to be saved, though he knows *only a remnant* will be saved until the final Gentile is saved and Jesus comes again to save the entire nation of Israel.

### Seven Reasons Why We Should Pray for the Lost

- 1) Because **REVELATION** is filled with commands to pray. *1 Timothy 2:1-6; Colossians 4:2-6*
- 2) Because **REBELLION (and RESISTANCE)** is embedded in the DNA and heart of all people. *Ephesians 2:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4*
- 3) Because **RESURRECTION** of the spiritually dead is impossible with us but not for God. *John 11:43-44; Mark 5:41-42*
- 4) Because **REPENTANCE** is ultimately a gift that God gives. *2 Timothy 2:24-25; Acts 5:31; 8:22*
- 5) Because **REGENERATION** is a gift that has to come from above. *John 3:3-8; Titus 3:3-7*
- 6) Because **REDEMPTION** is from the Lord. *Ephesians 2:8-10; Jonah 2:9; Psalm 3:8*
- 7) Because **REQUESTS** like this are answered by our majestic, merciful God and His sovereign Savior. *Acts 16:14; 7:51-8:1; 9:1-22*

## 3. Pray to Our Sovereign Savior for the Lost to BE SAVED.

"... my...prayer to God for them is that they may be saved."

*"Dežsis (prayer) conveys the idea of pleading and entreaty, of persistent petition to God. Paul was not making a hopeless plea that he did not expect God to answer. He prayed because he fully believed God could save all Israel, that, no matter how seemingly unlikely, the people of Israel could be saved if they would place their trust in their Messiah and Savior."* ~John MacArthur

## 4. Pray to Our Sovereign Savior for the Lost to Be Saved LIKE PAUL DID.

"Brothers, my...prayer to God for them is that they may be saved."

Paul took "no delight or satisfaction from Israel's fall. Quite the contrary, on his part, Paul remains passionately committed to the salvation of the Jews. His commitment rests in the desire, or will, of his innermost person, the heart; and it comes to expression in his prayer of petition on behalf of Israel, that they might experience the salvation that has been made available in the gospel." ~Doug Moo (Romans, 631-632)

### Pray for the Lost to Be Saved Like Paul Did!

- Pray for entire **people groups** around the world to be saved—even hardened ones.
- Pray for **specific individuals** right next door to be saved—even hardened ones.

### NEXT WEEK

How to Pray with **PASSION** for the Lost Like Paul Did!