

Materials I Need:

Legend:



= Option 1, Appropriate for 1st – 2nd Grade

= Option 2, Appropriate for 3rd – 6th Grade

Memory Work:

“Does not the Potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?” Romans 9:21

Suggested Thematic Tracks:

① God Elects

HOOK: The Election Game (*Activity*)
Parable of the Team Coach (*Discussion*)
The Potter and the Clay (*Activity*)
Choosing (*Discussion*)
The Action Game (*Activity*)
Sonogram Photograph (*Object Lesson/Discussion*)

LOOK: You Are the Potter (*Activity*)
Roaming Romans 9 (*Word Search*)

TOOK: Salvation Comes through Faith (*Gospel Presentation*)
Can You Pay the Price? (*Object Lesson*)

② God is Sovereign

HOOK: God's Sovereignty in Review (*Coloring Pages/Bible Review*)
Play with Clay (*Activity*)
Sovereign Superheroes (*Discussion*)



LOOK: God Is Merciful (*Discussion*)
God Is Sovereign (*Crossword*)
Sovereignty of God (*Worksheet/Discussion*)
Old in the New (*Worksheet*)

TOOK: God Is Merciful and Sovereign over Me (*Discussion/Take-Home Page*)

➤ **Complementary Activities**

Hook:



① **The Election Game (*Activity*)**.   Make up a very difficult question to which no one will know the answer. First, play the game where everyone loses. Line the students up, tell them that you are going to play a game and if they know the answer to your difficult question, they will earn a prize. When everyone loses, play again. This time the question will be difficult but you will whisper the answer to a select number of students. Have these students play last. Tell them that in today's Bible Adventure they will learn about how we all deserve to be losers in God's game of life but, in God's mercy, He has elected some to have the right answers. He has chosen some to be the winners of eternal life.



① **Parable of the Team Coach (Discussion).** 🦋, 🦋 Teachers are to bring in a basketball, wear tennis shoes, dribble the ball a few times, then pass the ball around before telling this story.

Not long ago there was a well-to-do man who wanted to own and coach a basketball team. He considered purchasing an existing team, but he did not have enough money or influence. So he thought and thought for a long time and decided that he would start his own basketball team. The coach's first task was to find the best ball players who would join his new team. Far and wide he searched for just the right players, but he could not find any good players who wanted to play on his team. In desperation he chose his team from his own small hometown.

One day the coach happened to be going to a butcher shop to get some juicy bones for his dog. He noticed a young man behind the counter who had a nice smile but talked with a lisp and could not speak very clearly. He asked the young man, "What is your name?" The young man said, "Otiss." "How would you like to play on my new basketball team?" he asked Otis. Otis replied, "Yesss, I would love to play."

The next day the coach was fortunate to find his next team player. Glen worked in the local bakery shop as a baker. He made all types of pastries and breads, and he loved to taste and sample his creations. Glen did not look like a ball player because it appeared that he was hiding a basketball under his shirt.

The coach chose three other team members that same week: Lon, Ron and Yon. Lon worked at a bank as a money counter. He counted all the money that came into the bank. His only problem was that he could only count out loud. He was alone all day in a back room counting, where he would disturb no one.

Ron worked for the city sanitation department collecting garbage all day. He was very strong and muscular but was only five feet tall. Ron really wanted to play because when he was growing up nobody wanted him on their team because he was just too short.

Yon was unemployed and used to do odd jobs such as raking lawns, cleaning rugs, and weeding gardens. Yon was very lonely and did not have very many friends. He really wanted to play basketball because he would have someone to talk to.

The coach was dedicated to the team and insisted that they work hard and attend all the practice sessions. The first season that this team played basketball was disappointing. They did not win one game! They didn't give up but continued to practice and work out. They won one game during the next season and were greatly encouraged. The next year they won the league championship.

At the sports award banquet, these five unlikely basketball players came forward to receive their trophies. Each one humbly acknowledged their honor, but each gave honor and praise to their coach. It was the coach who chose them. It was the coach who taught them how to be a team. It was the coach who encouraged them when they wanted to quit. They owed everything to the coach. The coach deserved all the praise, honor, and glory that the players had just received.

Did you know that God chooses people to be on His team (John 15:16)? Just like on our basketball team, God does not choose the most likely team player. He does not choose the wisest or the strongest or the most beautiful. He chooses the foolish, the weak, and the ordinary as His team (1Corinthians 1:26-31). "But," you say, "Why does God do this?" Maybe our team players can tell us.



Teachers: Write down the names of the team players on the board as shown below:

Glen Lon Otis Ron Yon

Do you understand now? The team reflected the GLORY of the coach. When they played together as a team, they showed how great, wise, and wonderful a coach he was. In the same way, God chooses His team players so that He will receive all the glory as they display His attributes in their lives: His goodness, His wisdom, His love, His mercy, His joy, His peace, His kindness, etc. Christians are God's GLORY team.

- ① **The Potter and the Clay (Activity).** 🎨, 🦋 Give each student a lump of Playdoh. Instruct the students to form their Playdoh into two people. Once this has been completed, instruct them to assign a specific task or action to each of their Playdoh persons (i.e., assign one to do somersaults and one to hop up and down.) Tell the students that in today's Bible Adventure they will see how God is our Maker. Not only has He designed what our tasks and lives will look like, but He has also determined if we will want to obey and serve Him and have eternal life. It is His right to do this because He is our Maker. Reference today's Bible memory verse.
- ① **Choosing (Discussion).** 🎨 Provide to the students at each table with a group of eight to ten different objects. As the students arrive and are seated at the tables, give each one the opportunity to choose the objects they would like from those at their table. Don't tell them anything other than that they cannot select every object, but must be selective and choose only those they desire. After the students have made their selection, talk to them about why they selected the items that they did. Talk about a scenario where only one student was chosen for a very, very special trip somewhere. This student knew how wonderful this trip would be and really desired to go. Ask the students that if the one who was selected was them and they were given an opportunity to trade places with one of their friends, would they let their friend go in their place? After each student has had a turn to share, tell them that this morning they will learn about how God chooses those to redeem for His glory. He makes these choices even before those people are even born. Now that's an awesome thought!
- ① **The Action Game (Activity).** 🎨, 🦋 When the students enter the room, assign each one a specific action or task. Some actions might include jumping jacks, clapping hands, patting head, touching toes, licking lips, blinking eyes, etc. When everyone has been assigned their tasks, explain that you are going to play a game where there is only one rule: You must do the task that you were assigned. Give a directive to have them begin and let them do their task for 20-30 seconds. Then gather the students together and tell them that in today's Bible Adventure they will see that before they were even born, God had designed tasks for their lives. Not only did God do this, He also predetermined whether or not they will be saved and enjoy God forever, or if they will reject His Gospel and live for themselves.
- ① **Sonogram Photograph (Object Lesson/Discussion).** 🎨, 🦋 Bring in a sonogram photograph. (If possible, bring in one with twins to relate to the Jacob and Esau section.) Show the photograph to the students and talk about how this baby, although he or she is not yet born, has a life that has already been decided by God. God knows this child and has already determined what his or her life will be like and if he or she has been elected to have salvation.
- ② **God's Sovereignty in Review (Coloring Pages/Bible Review).** 🎨, 🦋 Using the Illustration/Coloring Pages in the BOOK section (**ROM07.GF1-4**), review with the students the events that took place in the Old Testament where God's sovereignty was revealed. Highlight the points of each event and see how many portions your students can recall. Ask leading questions to draw out their answers. It might be helpful for you to keep track of this information as it is presented, on the board or a piece of butcher paper, so that you can reference it again during the LOOK portion of this morning's classroom time.
- ② **Play with Clay (Activity).** 🎨, 🦋 Provide a lump of clay (available in large blocks at an art supply store) for each one of the students and let them experiment with it. Talk with them about how pliable it is in their hands. They have total control over this piece of clay and could make anything they wanted out of it. A nice supplement to this would be if you brought in some photographs of different types of pottery. Explain that some are works of art to be viewed in a gallery, some are made into collections or patterns used as household dishes, some are vases, pots, mugs, or other useful vessels, all coming from a lump of clay and fashioned by the potter in control. The potter is the creator and makes whatever he wishes from the clay. Ask the students what they would make if they could use this clay to make anything. This morning they will hear how Paul explains to the people of Rome that God is the ultimate Potter. He can do whatever He pleases to whomever He chooses because He created them.



② **Sovereign Superheroes (Discussion).**   Bring several action figure superheroes or comics to display. Play with them or let the students play with them before beginning the discussion. Use the following narrative and discussion questions:

I like superheroes, don't you? They have extraordinary powers that enable them to right wrongs, save people from harm, and perform the spectacular. One superhero I know, whose name I cannot tell you, keeps his identity hidden, posing as an ordinary human being. When an innocent, helpless person is in the jaws of death, he somehow knows and flies to the rescue. After a battle of wits and strength, he overcomes the evil menace and saves the victim.

Let's examine a few characteristics of these man-made superheroes. First of all, they are sovereign in their realm. In other words, they have complete power and control in the places where they live or go. No one is able to overthrow them by stealth or strength. They are smarter and stronger than any of their evil opponents.

Secondly, a superhero is extremely wise. He does not make any mistakes and is not outwitted by the enemy. The evil menace always has a good plan, but the superhero has a better one.

Finally, a superhero must be good. He has no evil motives or intentions—his only thoughts are for the good of others. He is self-sacrificing. Can you imagine a superhero who is not good? I can't.

There is one problem, however, that I have noticed with man-made superheroes. They always have some weaknesses or faults. They are only sovereign in their own realm and have limited powers. In fact, I have noticed that sometimes two or more superheroes must join forces to outwit and defeat an extremely powerful foe. At times they appear to make a few mistakes and are temporarily outwitted and overcome by the evil menace. Be assured they always win the battle, but it may take two episodes to do so.

Let's think about this: Let's come up with the characteristics of a mega-superhero, not just a superhero. What might this person be like? What would be the size of his realm, what powers would he have and how smart would he be? He would have to be completely good, as well.

Teachers: Discuss the following with the students and write on the board:

- **His realm:** What is the largest realm You can think of? What would it include? The mega-superhero would have to have complete authority and control in this realm. (Heaven, outer space, earth, hell, and, just to be safe, we must include other places we don't know about.)
- **His power:** What is the greatest power we can think of? Would it be atomic power, the atomic or hydrogen bomb? How about making his word the most powerful thing we can think of? Just think, if he said to the evil menace, "Bang, you're dead," he would be dead. If he said, "Let it rain," it would rain. If he said, "Let the river stop flowing," it would stop flowing. If he said anything that he wanted to have happen, it would happen. That is powerful! But think about this: what would a fool or an evil person do with this type of power?
- **His knowledge and wisdom:** Who was the wisest human being who ever lived on earth, aside from Jesus? (*Solomon*) Where did he get all his knowledge and wisdom? (*God gave it to him.*) How much knowledge and wisdom would our mega-superhero need to be in total and complete control of his realm? (*It would be all that God had. He would have to know everything.*)
- **His goodness:** There is only one Person who is completely good and who has never made a mistake and will never make a mistake. Everything He does is good. Who is this Person? (*God.*)

It appears that our mega-superhero would have the same characteristics as God. God is sovereign in the largest realm possible. No one can resist His power, for whatever He says happens (Psalms 115:3, 1 Chronicles 29:11, Daniel 4:35, 1 Timothy 6:15b). God knows everything there is to know and He is completely good (Mark 10:18, Luke 18:19), so that whatever He does is good and not evil.



➤ **Romans Medallion-Mobile (Review).** 🎨, 🦋 Utilize this overview tool and incentive program to motivate the students and their parents to memorize the outline and key verses for the book of Romans. Devote time in the classroom to equip the students with a framework for assimilating and retaining the deep truths of God's righteousness in Paul's letter to the Romans. Review the incentive program at length with the students (see the note to parents on the Scripture Key Chain) and encourage them to ask their parents to participate with them. Show the students both components of the program, the Take-Home Scripture Key Chain and the Medallion-Mobile itself, before passing out the Scripture Key Chain to any new participants. Direct them to memorize the next verse in the key chain for next week in order to be rewarded with the next medallion. These mobiles will be hung from the ceiling in the classroom over the next three months as the students are awarded each medallion.



Book:

Presentation Ideas –



➤ **Isaac and Ishmael (Illustration/Coloring Page).** 🎨, 🦋 Romans 9:6-9, **ROM07.GF1.**



➤ **Jacob and Esau (Illustration/ Coloring Page).** 🎨, 🦋 Romans 9:10-13, **ROM07.GF2.**



➤ **The Pharaoh (Illustration/Coloring Page).** 🎨, 🦋 Romans 9:17-18, **ROM07.GF3.**



➤ **The Potter (Illustration/Coloring Page).** 🎨, 🦋 Romans 9:20-21, **ROM07.GF4.**

Bible Adventure for 1st – 6th Grades –

Today we have reached the half-way mark in our study of Paul's letter to the church in Rome. We have seen Paul explain in careful detail the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He explained that all mankind, both Jews and Gentiles, are sinful and deserve eternal punishment in hell. But then he proclaimed the Good News that Jesus took upon Himself the punishment for our sin, and those who have faith in Him are justified or declared "not guilty" by God. Believers die to their old life of slavery to sin and the Law and are resurrected to a new life given to them by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit now guides them and gives them the power to do more and more things that please the Lord. Remember that this process is called sanctification.

In Romans 9, Paul switched gears from explaining the Gospel to helping the Roman believers understand some matters that were confusing to them. If the nation of Israel was God's chosen and beloved people, why was God offering a way of salvation (faith in Jesus Christ) that now included Gentiles and, seemingly, left out many Jews? Had God chosen a new group of people and turned His back on the promises that He had made to the nation of Israel? Paul answered these questions by explaining that God is sovereign and has a plan for both Jews as well as Gentiles. To say that God is sovereign is to say that He is in control of everything. He can do *whatever He wants, whenever He wants, to whomever He wants*. This would be bad news if God was mean and acted out of a lack of self-control. But that is not what God is like! He is loving and uses His sovereign power to do the things that please Him, and what pleases Him most is to show the world how wonderful and great He is!

Paul confessed that he was very sad that even though the Jews were known to be God's chosen people, many were not accepting God's salvation and righteousness through Jesus Christ, their Messiah. Paul even went so far as to say, "For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, the people of Israel" (9:3). He then told of the tremendous blessings that God had given to Israel. God had chosen this nation as His own and set it apart from all the other nations of the world. However, they rejected Christ as the long-awaited Messiah. Did this mean that God would not be faithful to all the promises that He had made to them? Absolutely not! Paul explained that God is sovereign and has a plan for every human being, Jew and Gentile, and that God has a plan to work out His faithfulness to Israel.

In God's sovereignty, He has chosen, or "elected," certain people to be saved from their sins. He calls these people to be His own. This is known as election. In the Gospel of John, Jesus said, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last." (John 15:16a) Many Jews believed that they would be saved if they worked hard at keeping the Law. However, Paul made it clear that they must go to God and ask for salvation from sin through Christ. It all depends on God's mercy!

Paul used some examples from Israel's past to illustrate God's sovereign choosing of people to use for His purposes. One example, in particular, is of Jacob and Esau, found in the Old Testament book of Genesis. These men were twins born of Isaac and Rebekah. Both were grandsons of Abraham, but both were not elected, or chosen, to have the promised nation of Israel come from their descendants. Even before they were born, God had determined which twin would be His chosen one. It had nothing to do with the good or bad deeds either had done. Because He is sovereign, God simply chose according to His good pleasure.

Paul knew that people would want to know why God would elect some to be His own and not others. Therefore, in verses 20-24 of chapter 9, Paul answers these kinds of questions with a picture of a potter and his clay. The potter shapes the clay into different kinds of pottery. He can make some pottery for holding beautiful flowers or rare treasure and other pottery for holding garbage or grease. He can choose to do whatever he pleases with his clay, and the clay cannot question the potter or complain about the kind of pottery it was made into, even if the clay were able to think or speak. The same is true for God. People are His creation and He has made man in order to show how great He is. Some people are very rebellious and evil, and God has been patient with people like this, although it is perfectly okay for God to show His anger toward proud people. God is also kind to others, both Jews and Gentiles, by choosing to make them for His great purpose of showing off His mercy and goodness through His salvation in Christ. God has the right to make some pottery for showing His great power and other pottery for showing His great kindness.

Paul's message to the Roman Christians was clear. All believers, both Jew and Gentile, depend upon God's mercy for their salvation. Secondly, God is sovereign and can do *whatever He wants, whenever He wants, to whomever He wants*. You must realize that your very life, your future, even your next breath, depends upon God who is in control of everything. If you have not already done so, ask for His mercy and trust in Jesus Christ to take away your sins.

Aim Questions

1. **Why did Paul care so much about the salvation of the Jews? Why did God care so much?** *(Paul was a Jew and a Pharisee before his conversion; God had chosen the Jews as His only holy people.)*
2. **What does it mean that God is sovereign?** *(God can do whatever He wants, whenever He wants, to whomever He wants.)*
3. **What is election?** *(The truth that God chose a people to save for Himself before time began.)*
4. **What three examples of God's sovereignty does Paul give in Romans nine?** *(Isaac and Ishmael; Jacob and Esau; the Pharaoh.)*
5. **Explain Paul's illustration of the potter and the clay.** *(The potter has the right over the clay to do whatever he wants, whenever he wants, to whichever clay or pottery he chooses.)*
6. **Why should we depend upon God?** *(He is sovereign and worthy of our fear and reverence.)*



Look:



① **You Are the Potter (Activity).** 🧩, 🦋 Provide the students once again with a lump of clay.

Allow them to make something that they would like to take home. As they create these items, use this time to review the main points of the story and work on the memory verse for today. If you want to provide additional decorative items such as sequins, beads, yarn, pompoms, etc., to combine with the clay, you will need to make these requests to the Children's Ministry office in advance. Place each student's final creation on a small piece of cardboard, approximately 6" x 6", with the memory verse, from **ROM07.GF5**, pasted along the front edge.


- ① **Roaming Romans 9 (Word Search).** 🎒, 🦋 Have the students find key words regarding Romans 9, **ROM07.GF6**. This would be a great opportunity to discuss the meanings of the words the students are searching for, and how they relate to today's Bible Adventure.
 - ② **God Is Merciful (Discussion).** 🎒, 🦋 Teacher preparation prior to class will make this discussion go much smoother. Look up the verses below that speak of the mercies of God, His loving character, and faithfulness to His people. Give examples from Old Testament, New Testament and modern times where God's mercy upon His people has been evident. (*Exodus 33:19, Psalm 52:1, Psalm 86:15, Psalm 145, Luke 6:36, Ephesians 2:4, Titus 3:5, Hebrews 4:16*)
 - ② **God Is Sovereign (Crossword).** 🦋 Have the students solve the crossword in **ROM07.GF7** as a review for the lesson today. An answer key is provided.
 - ② **Sovereignty of God (Worksheet/Discussion).** 🦋 Using **ROM07.GF8**, look up the Scripture references to the left, and write a brief phrase in the space provided to the right describing how each verse displays the sovereignty of God.
 - ② **Old in the New (Worksheet).** 🦋 Paul explains election and sovereignty by referring to many Old Testament events. Have the students underline the words that refer to the Old Testament with a colored pencil, **ROM07.GF9**.
 - **Jews and Gentiles (Worksheet).** 🎒, 🦋 In light of Romans 9:4-5, use **ROM07.GF10** to talk with the students about the differences between the Jewish nation and the Gentiles. Explain that the Jews possess a heritage and ancestry that the Gentiles do not. The salvation is the same for each, however, and both may share in Christ's inheritance.
 - **Aim Questions (Worksheet).** 🎒 Have the students answer the Aim Questions about today's Bible Adventure, **ROM07.GF11**.
 - **Passage Review Questions (Worksheet).** 🎒, 🦋 This booklet contains many questions from the Scripture passage covered in today's lesson. The students may work on them in class and complete them during the week at home, **ROM07.GF12**.
 - **Romans 9:21 (Memory Verse Song).** 🎒 Words and music for today's memory verse are available upon request from Children's Ministry.
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Took:

- ① **Salvation Comes through Faith (Gospel Presentation).** 🎒 Use the "Who's My King?" tract, available through Children's Ministry, to share the Gospel with the students. Explain that faith in Christ is a gift from God. To receive this gift, we must acknowledge our sin before a Holy God, seek forgiveness, and follow the Savior. Our job is to present the Gospel; God's job is to choose whom to redeem. For the students who have accepted Christ, they can review the Gospel in light of sharing it with others. It may be appropriate for some to share their testimonies. Make these tracts available for parents to take home when they come and pick up their child.
- ① **Can You Pay the Price? (Object Lesson).** 🎒, 🦋 Make a giant price tag, at least as large as a piece of paper. Write on it a price that a child would never be able to pay. For example, write \$100,000,000,000,000,000, and 500 years of shoveling the sidewalk constantly, and 350 years of washing dishes without stopping. Have the students imagine something that they would like (a bicycle, video game, doll, etc.). Let a few of them share what they would like. Now show them the price tag. Would they ever be able to pay the price? What if they really wanted that doll? Could

they ever earn enough or work hard enough? Make the transition to God's Word. Romans 9:16 says, "(Salvation) does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy." Explain that no matter how much we want to be saved and know God, it does not depend upon our efforts. No matter how many good things we do to earn God's favor, we cannot do enough. It depends upon God's mercy. If you are a Christian, you must praise God that, in His mercy, He has given you what you could never earn. If you are not a Christian, you must pray that God will save you and give you a heart that wants to know Him.

 ② **God Is Merciful and Sovereign over Me (Discussion/Take-Home Page).** 🐛, 🦋 Duplex copy **ROM07.GF13 Pgs. 1 & 2.** Review once again with the students what the sovereignty of God is. Talk about how we see the hand of God working all around us every day. Allow each student to have a few moments to think about how God's mercy and sovereignty is, or has been, displayed specifically in his or her life. As they share these events with each other, take the opportunity to allow the students to record these thoughts on the **ROM07.GF13** sheet that can then go home with them to continue to remind them this week how God has His hand in everything that happens to everyone. Everything depends upon God's will. We must realize that our lives, our future, even our next breath, all depend upon God Who controls all things. The backside of **ROM07.GF13** can be used to record God's mercies.

 ➤ **Romans Hand Motions (Review).** 🐛, 🦋 Teach this week's hand motions that go along with the overview and incentive program of the Romans Medallion-Mobile as described in the HOOK time. This will facilitate the memorization of the outline and key verses for the book of Romans. Refer to **ROM05.GF13** for the appropriate hand motions.

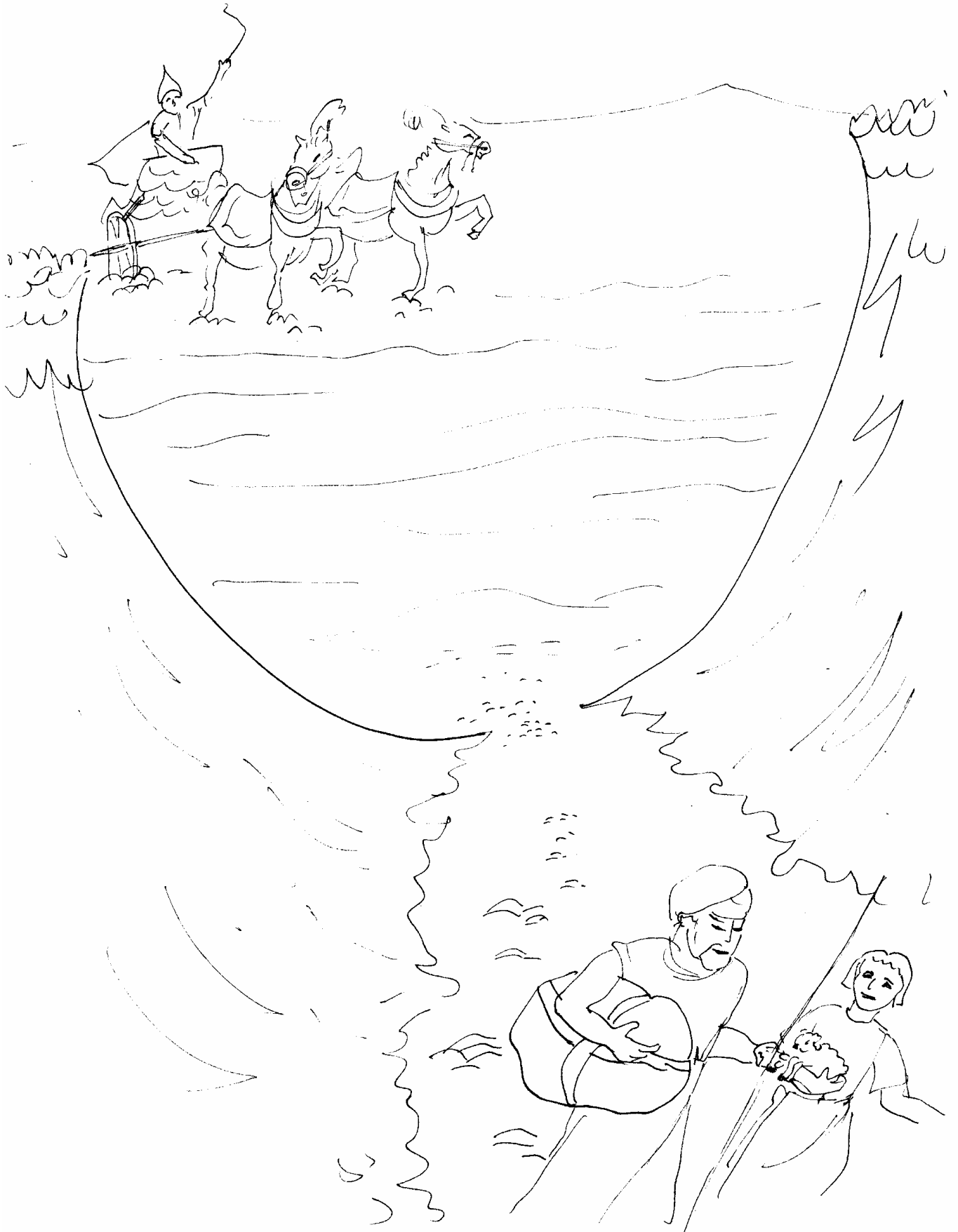
Isaac and Ishmael



Jacob and Esau



The Pharaoh



The Potter



Roaming Romans 9

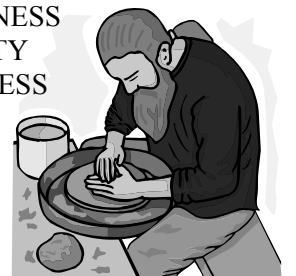
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ADOPTION
ELECTION
ESAU
FAITH
GENTILES
GLORY
HOSEA
ISAAC
ISAIAH
ISHMAEL

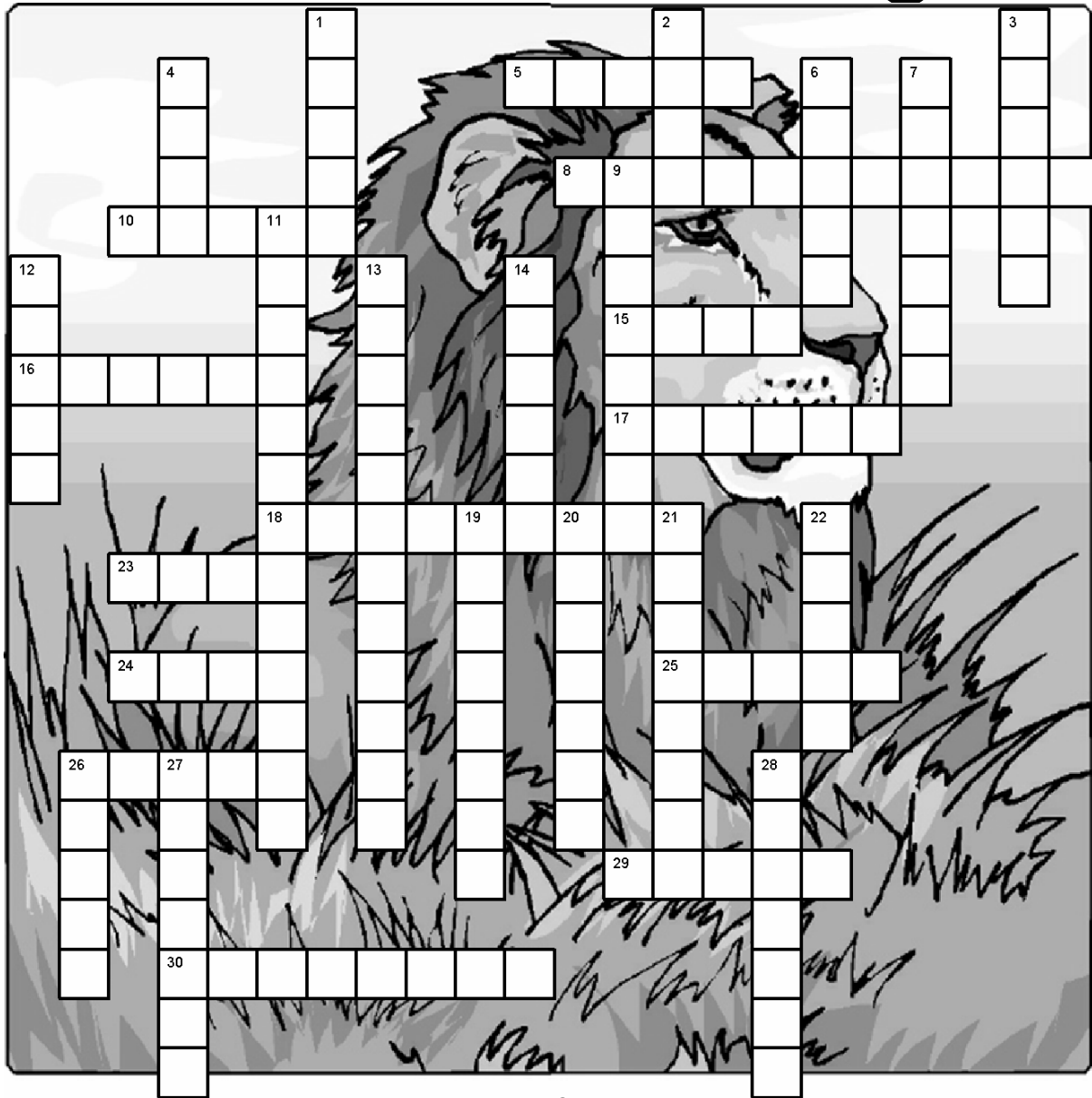


ISRAEL
JACOB
JESUS CHRIST
JEWS
MERCY
NEW TESTAMENT
OFFSPRING
OLD TESTAMENT
PATIENCE
PAUL
PHARAOH

POTTER
REMNANT
RIGHTEOUSNESS
SOVEREIGNTY
TRUTHFULNESS
WORKS
WRATH
ZION



God Is Sovereign



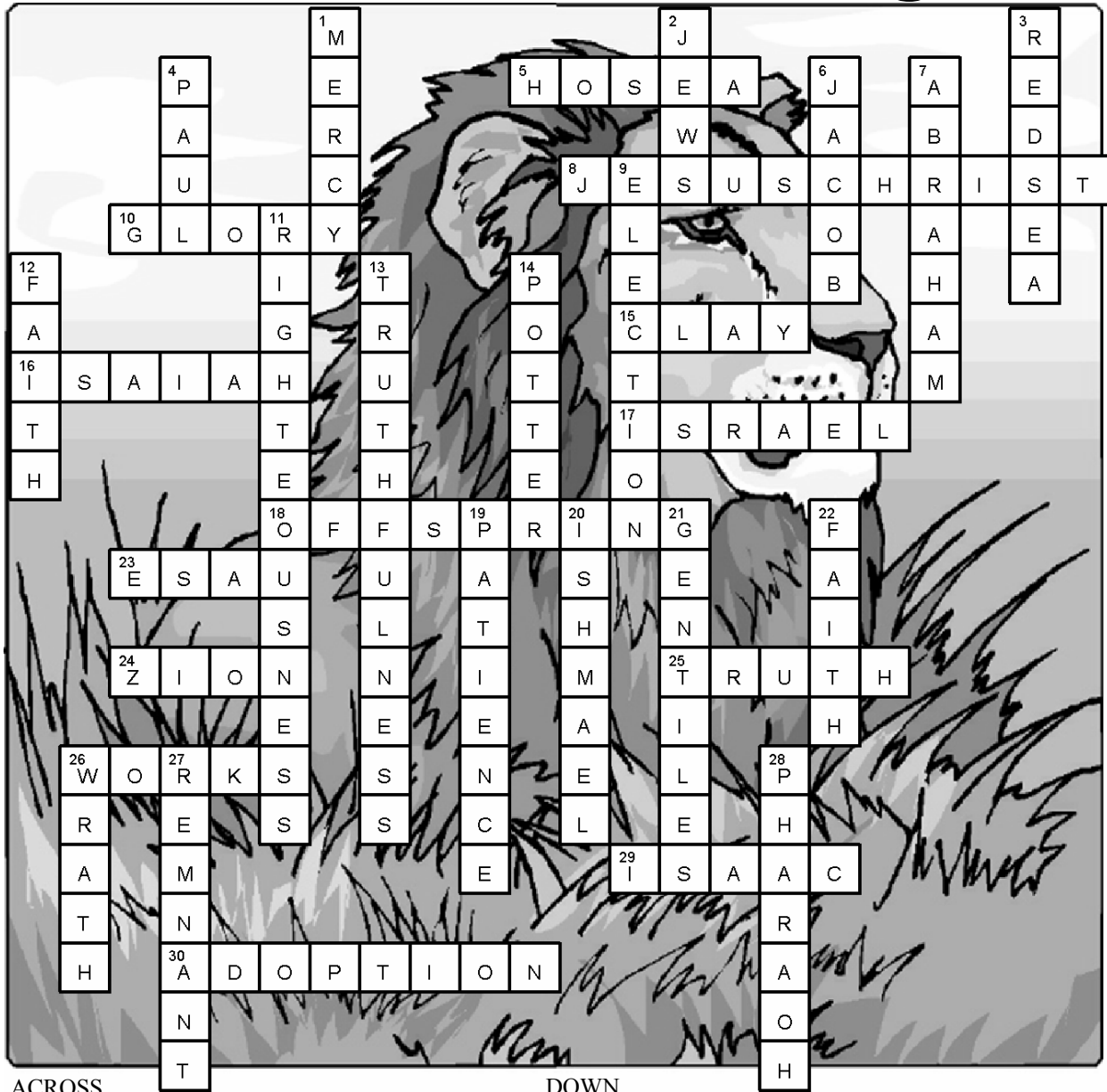
ACROSS

5. Paul quotes him in vs. 25
8. He died for our sins
10. Divine _____ (9:4)
15. What a potter uses (9:21)
16. _____ cries out concerning Israel (9:27)
17. Paul's race was from _____ (9:3-4)
18. It is through Isaac that your _____ will be reckoned. (9:7)
23. Jacob was loved, he was hated (9:13)
24. The block that men stumble over rests here (9:33)
25. God's Word is absolute _____
26. We were created for good _____ (Eph. 2:10)
29. Rebekah's husband (9:10)
30. Not naturally born, but made sons through (9:4)

DOWN

1. Used twice in v. 18
2. Received the law and had temple worship (9:4)
3. Pharaoh's army drowned here
4. Wrote the letter of Romans
6. _____ I loved, but Esau I hated (9:13)
7. Isaac's father
9. God chooses (9:11)
11. _____ is by faith and not by works (9:30-32)
12. The F in FBC
13. T word in Romans 3:7
14. Molds the clay; God (9:21)
19. Extension of mercy; long-suffering (9:22)
20. Abraham's son by Hagar
21. God's adopted sons (9:30)
22. Same as 12
26. God's righteous anger (9:22)
27. Only the _____ will be saved (9:27)
28. Hard heart to God

God Is Sovereign Answer Key



ACROSS

5. Paul quotes him in vs. 25
8. He died for our sins
10. Divine _____ (9:4)
15. What a potter uses (9:21)
16. _____ cries out concerning Israel (9:27)
17. Paul's race was from _____ (9:3-4)
18. It is through Isaac that your _____ will be reckoned. (9:7)
23. Jacob was loved, he was hated (9:13)
24. The block that men stumble over rests here (9:33)
25. God's Word is absolute _____
26. We were created for good _____ (Eph. 2:10)
29. Rebekah's husband (9:10)
30. Not naturally born, but made sons through (9:4)

DOWN

1. Used twice in v. 18
2. Received the law and had temple worship (9:4)
3. Pharaoh's army drowned here
4. Wrote the letter of Romans
6. _____ I loved, but Esau I hated (9:13)
7. Isaac's father
9. God chooses (9:11)
11. _____ is by faith and not by works (9:30-32)
12. The F in FBC
13. T word in Romans 3:7
14. Molds the clay; God (9:21)
19. Extension of mercy; long-suffering (9:22)
20. Abraham's son by Hagar
21. God's adopted sons (9:30)
22. Same as 12
26. God's righteous anger (9:22)
27. Only the _____ will be saved (9:27)
28. Hard heart to God

Sovereignty of God

Look up the Scripture references to the left, and write a brief phrase in the space provided to the right describing how each verse displays the sovereignty of God.

Isaiah 45:7

Daniel 4:34-35

Acts 13:48

Romans 9:15-16

Romans 9:17-18

Romans 9:19-22

1 Timothy 6:15

Revelation 4:11

OLD IN THE NEW

1. I speak the truth in Christ--I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit--
2. I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.
3. For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race,
4. the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises.
5. Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.
6. It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.
7. Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."
8. In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.
9. For this was how the promise was stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son."
10. Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac.
11. Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad--in order that God's purpose in election might stand:
12. not by works but by him who calls--she was told, "The older will serve the younger."
13. Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."
14. What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all!
15. For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."
16. It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.
17. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."
18. Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.
19. One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who resists his will?"
20. But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'"
21. Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?
22. What if God, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath--prepared for destruction?
23. What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory--
24. even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles?
25. As he says in Hosea: "I will call them 'my people' who are not my people; and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one,"
26. and, "It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'sons of the living God.'"
27. Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: "Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, only the remnant will be saved.
28. For the Lord will carry out his sentence on earth with speed and finality."
29. It is just as Isaiah said previously: "Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah."
30. What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith;
31. but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it.
32. Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the "stumbling stone."
33. As it is written: "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

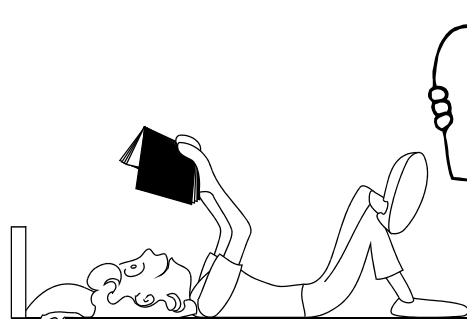
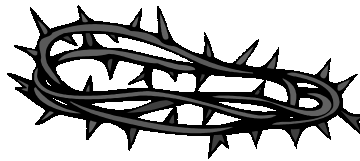
On the left-hand side of the page are two pictures, a Jew and a Gentile. On the right-hand side of the page are several items that can be uniquely identified with either the Jew or the Gentile. Some of the items can be identified with both. Use a red pencil to draw a line between the Jew and the things belonging to the Jew and use a green pencil to draw a line between the Gentile and the things belonging to him. Some pictures may have two lines connecting them.



Jew



Gentile



BIBLE STUDY

Aim Questions

Answer the following questions about today's Bible Adventure.

1. Why did Paul care so much about the salvation of the Jews? Why did God care so much?
2. What does it mean that God is sovereign?
3. What is election?
4. What three examples of God's sovereignty does Paul give in Romans 9?
5. Explain Paul's illustration of the potter and the clay.
6. Why should we depend upon God?

God is perfect, righteous, and just. Therefore, He can do whatever He wants, whenever He wants, to whomever He wants and it will all bring glory to Him.



"Does not the Potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?"

Romans 9:21

Passage Review Questions

Romans 9

How do we know that Paul is speaking the truth, according to the evidence that he gives us? (9:1)

What are the emotions that Paul is feeling now? (9:2)

Why is Paul feeling this way? (9:3)

To what race of people is Paul referring? (9:4)

What type of relationship do the Jews have with God, according to Paul? (9:4)

What can be traced through the Jews? (9:5)

Does Paul say that God's Word has failed? Why or why not? (9:6,7)

Who are regarded as the true children of God, the natural children (those born to Abraham) or the children of the promise (those who believe)? (9:7-8)

What two Old Testament women are mentioned in verses 9 and 10?

Why does Paul include these two women in his explanation of election? (9:9-15)

Is God unjust for choosing the elect? (9:14,15)

Upon what does being chosen as the elect depend? (9:16)

How did God use Pharaoh to display His glory? (9:17,18)

What illustration does Paul give to further explain the doctrine, or teaching, of election? (9:19-21)

Why did God choose the elect? (9:23)

Do the elect only come from the Jews? (9:24)

Explain Paul's quote from Hosea. (9:25, 26)

Summarize Paul's quote from Isaiah. (9:27-29)

Explain the difference between the Gentiles' and the Jews' responses to Christ. (9:30-33)



God Is Sovereign over Me

“Does not the Potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?” Romans 9:21



God Is Sovereign over Me

“Does not the Potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?” Romans 9:21

God Is Merciful to Me

“Our God is in heaven; He does whatever pleases Him.” Psalm 115:3

God Is Merciful to Me

“Our God is in heaven; He does whatever pleases Him.” Psalm 115:3