

18. How can we pray for each other this week?

### Quotes to Ponder

*For man to advise God about how He ought to act is as out of place as for a statue to advise a sculptor how to chisel. The presumption that a man's sense of values is ultimate and can prevail against God's sense of values is as ludicrous to Paul as a ranting figurine.*

John Piper

*From a corrupt mass of clay God chose to make vessels of glory.*

R. C. Sproul

*Paul never offers ... a "logical" solution to the tension between divine sovereignty and human responsibility that he creates ... Paul is content to hold the truths of God's absolute sovereignty — in both election and in hardening — and of full human responsibility without reconciling them. We would do well to emulate his approach.*

Douglas Moo

*If ... anybody is lost, the blame is theirs, but if anybody is saved, the credit is God's. This antinomy contains a mystery which our present knowledge cannot solve; but it is consistent with Scripture, history, and experience.*

John Stott

*The unfathomable truth that God chooses some men for salvation and others for destruction is not revealed to confuse or upset us, and certainly not to tempt us to question the character of God's person. That truth is given to demonstrate God's glory and sovereignty to all men. It is also given to make believers thankful that He has chosen us, who, in ourselves, were not & are not more worthy of salvation than those who remain lost.*

John MacArthur

*When I come to a text which speaks of election, I delight myself in the doctrine of election. When the apostles exhort me to repentance and obedience, and indicate my freedom of choice and action, I give myself up to that side of the question.*

Charles Simeon

*The elect are whosoever will, and the non-elect, whosoever won't.*

Henry Ward Beecher



Message #65: Are We Robots?

September 6, 2015

## Sermon Notes

**1. God has all rights over us (19-21)**

**2. God always displays His glory (22-23)**

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Confused you?

2. What is the objection that Paul voices in *Romans 9:19*?

3. What accusation against God is implied by *Romans 9:19*?

4. Is it sinful to ask questions of God? Explain.

5. What attitude is Paul rebuking in *Romans 9:20*?

6. How can we have an honest and open relationship with God without disrespecting His sovereign will?

7. What are we reminded of in *Romans 9:20-21* about God? About ourselves?

8. How do *Romans 9:20-21* humble you and help you exalt God?

9. What does the illustration of the potter and the clay tell about the way people and God relate to each other?

10. Why has God been treating the objects of His wrath with great *kindness and tolerance and patience (Romans 2:4; 9:22)*?

What does this tell you about God's character?

11. How do you reconcile God's desire that all be saved (*1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9*) with His decree that only some will be saved?

12. What are *vessels of wrath (Romans 9:22)*? *Vessels of mercy (Romans 9:23)*?

13. Why does God endure *with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction (Romans 9:22-23)*?

14. Explain the phrase, *riches of His glory (Romans 9:3)*.

15. Does God predestine some for glory and predestine others for destruction? Explain.

16. If God could save everyone, why doesn't He?

17. Do I have a clear understanding of the difference between respectfully reasoning with God and disrespectfully challenging His authority?