

## **The Sorrowful Unbelief of Israel, Part 2**

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### I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 9:1-5.
- B. Paul cherished his Hebrew identity. (Philippians 3)
- C. Paul loved his people.

### II. The perception of Paul in his day.

- A. He was converted and preached that Jesus is God in the synagogues. (Acts 9, Galatians 1)
- B. Many would not accept the gospel because of racial pride. They could not accept that the Gentiles had been accepted into the faith.
- C. Jews were sent after Paul to kill him for what he was preaching.
- D. When Paul says that he would be damned for the salvation of his people, he is expressing his love despite their persecution.
- E. God had to send Paul to the Gentiles because the Jews viewed him as a traitor.  
(1 Thessalonians 2:14; 2 Corinthians 11:24; 1 Samuel 15:35; Psalm 119:136; Jeremiah 9:1; 13:15-17; Isaiah 66:10-11)

### III. Paul loved the Jews because of their divine connection. (Philippians 3:5)

- A. They had a national identity that was tied to God and were a noble people.
- B. They were adopted by God. (Exodus 4:22, Hosea 11:1)
- C. They were given the presence of God in a most unique sense. (Exodus 24; 33; 34; 1 Kings 8; Genesis 12:15)
- D. They were given the “service,” which gave them access to God.
- E. Christ himself was a Jew according to human descent.

**Application Questions:**

1. How does knowing Paul's testimony demonstrate his love for the Jews all the more?

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2. How were the Jews especially connected to God? Why does this make their unbelief particularly sad?

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3. What can we learn from the extent of Paul's own love for his people? Explain.

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