

THE PLAN OF GOD

ROMANS PART 3

05/31/2026 | Pastor Seth Trimmer

WARM UP QUESTION: Have you ever won a prize you did nothing to earn?

READ: Romans 9:14-18

FOCUS: God's power and sovereignty gives assurance that he fulfills all his promises.

OBSERVE:

- The larger context of this passage is the mixing of the Jewish believers in Jesus who were proud of their heritage of covenant lineage, circumcision, and keeping of the Mosaic Law with the newly included Gentile believers, who came by faith.
- As the passage explains, God has the sovereign right to choose how he administers justice, mercy, and compassion toward us. Justice includes God's keeping of his promises, as well as actions toward those who rebel against them.
- None of this depends on anything we can do or earn; it depends entirely on God's mercy.

DISCUSS:

- What stood out to you, or what did the Holy Spirit bring to your attention?
- What life experiences, memories, thoughts, or emotions did this bring up for you? What do you wrestle with when you learn about God's justice, mercy, and compassion?
- How do you respond to this? Can you just accept God's love and then keep your current lifestyle, do you need to "clean up your act" before God will accept you, or do you respond to his love by living a more sanctified life?

TAKE ACTION:

- In your group, talk about how you came to salvation in Jesus Christ. Have you always known him because your parents taught you (a picture of election) or did you come through a long struggle (a picture of faith)?
- How does hearing the stories others tell fill in your understanding of God's justice, mercy, and compassion?

PRAY: *Almighty God, we stand before you in awe and thanksgiving as we remember your promises to your children. Jesus, thank you for your sacrifice that has fulfilled the law and allowed us to come into the Kingdom. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen!*