

ROMANS—PART 61

Romans 9:1-5

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1. 9:1 Paul's conscience was clear and could be called as his witness because he lived in complete obedience to the Lord (2 Corinthians 1:12).
2. 9:1 All believers should be able to say without hesitation that God's Word guides our behavior and is the very air we breathe.
3. 9:1 A conscience surrendered to God's Word is completely submissive to the Holy Spirit.
4. 9:3 Paul felt such love for his fellow Jews that he was willing to spend eternity in hell if somehow that could bring them to faith in Christ!
5. 9:3 It was Paul's great love for the lost that made him a powerful instrument in the hands of God.
6. 9:3 Evangelism has little effect if we have little love for those who are lost.
7. 9:4 Israel was highly and uniquely privileged:
 - "Israelites"— direct descendants of Abraham; throughout history, set themselves apart in science, arts, finance, business, education, politics, military
 - "To whom belongs the adoption as sons"—separated out to be His unique witness to the rest of the world (Exodus 4:22)
 - "Glory"—God revealed His own presence in the Shekinah. In a completely unique manner, He abided in the midst of His people (Exodus 16:10, 25:22, 40:34; 1 Kings 8:11).
 - "The covenants"—Abrahamic (Genesis 12:15-17), Mosaic (Exodus 19-31; Deuteronomy 29-30), Davidic (2 Samuel 7:8-16). New (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 37:26)...no other nation has ever been blessed with such covenants
 - "The giving of the Law"—Israel was taught the Ten Commandments and countless other standards, the obeying of which would honor God and, in turn, bring blessing to other nations.

