

# Romans

## (33) The Final Question and Answer

*But, Paul, how can God still judge us for sin?...9:19-21*

What question does Paul now anticipate, and answer? vs.19

**If God chooses some, why does He still blame (condemn) us? Who can resist Him?**

Paul answers this final challenge with a series of other questions. What's the first? vs.20a

**Who are you, O man, to talk back to God? This is the heart of the whole matter.**

It's also important here to note what he does NOT argue in response. List a few...

**Every man has free will. God knew who would have faith. It's up to you...**

If any of these traditional arguments were valid, this is the time and place. But instead, what?

**One of the strongest statements yet of the Sovereignty of God. He is totally sovereign.**

What is his second question? vs.20b

**Shall what is formed question the former? "Why did you make me like this?"**

And while we're still pondering this, what's his next immediate question? vs.21

**Example: Doesn't a potter have authority over the clay? To make his will known?**

What's the obvious answer to all these questions?

**We're not qualified to question, talk back, challenge motives or results! Period.**

*The only explanation given...9:22-33*

Paul now explains God's actions. What's his first point? vs.22a

**What if God chose to show His wrath/power, patiently endured the objects of His wrath?**

How are these *objects of His wrath* described? vs.22b

**They are self-prepared for destruction. This is not God's act, but theirs. (Gr is passive).**

And at the same time, what if He Himself chose other *objects of His mercy*, for glory!?! vs.23-24

**That's exactly what He did! Of Jew & Gentile, the Church, the Bride of Christ. Eph.2:6**

Demonstrating that this teaching is not "new", what does he show next? vs.25-26

**Regarding the calling/choosing of some of the Gentiles, quote from Hos.2:23.**

Then, regarding the Jews, he shows what? vs.27-28 Is.10:22

**That Isaiah predicted the called remnant saved within all of Israel. God chooses to save...**

What very important point about God's mercy is seen through Isaiah in verse 29?

**Without God's mercy, Israel would have been destroyed like Sodom/Gomorrah!**

Comparing Gentiles with Israel, what's the conclusion? vs.30-31

**Gentiles, not looking, found righteousness (in Christ). Jews, were looking, (in Law), didn't!**

And the obvious question from this? vs.32a And answer? vs.32b-33

**Jews pursued works, not faith. They stumbled over Christ, a Rock of offense (to works).**