

God's Providence

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Remember 8:30

*Those he foreknew, those he
predestined...*

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If God promised that Israel would be His people, yet the majority did not believe in Christ, does that mean God's promise is failing?

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Romans 9:1-3

¹I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit—

²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race.

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GOD'S MYSTERIOUS SOVEREIGNTY

Question #1

Has God failed to keep his
promises?
(verses 3-13)

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Romans 9:6a

*It is not as though God's
word had failed.*

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Romans 9:4-5

Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah.

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Romans 9:6b

*For not all who are
descended from Israel are
Israel.*

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**Examples From
Romans 9:7-13**

**Choosing Isaac NOT Ishmael
Choosing Jacob NOT Esau**

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Romans 9:10-12

¹⁰ Not only that, but Rebekah's children were conceived at the same time by our father Isaac. ¹¹ Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad—in order that God's purpose in election might stand: ¹² not by works but by him who calls.

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Romans 9:10-12

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Question #2

Is God unfair in how he dispenses mercy? (verses 9-18)

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Romans 9:15

*I will have mercy on whom I
have mercy and compassion
on whom I show compassion.*

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MERCY is a **GIFT**
not an obligation.

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“The basis on which God deals savingly with sinners is not justice but mercy.”

-John Stott

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Question #3

How can we be
accountable if God is the
one choosing?
(verses 19-30)

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Response #1

Who are you to ask?

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Romans 9:19-21

¹⁹ One of you will say to me: “Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?” ²⁰ But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’” ²¹ Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?

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Response #2

God has Glorious (and
Mysterious) Purposes

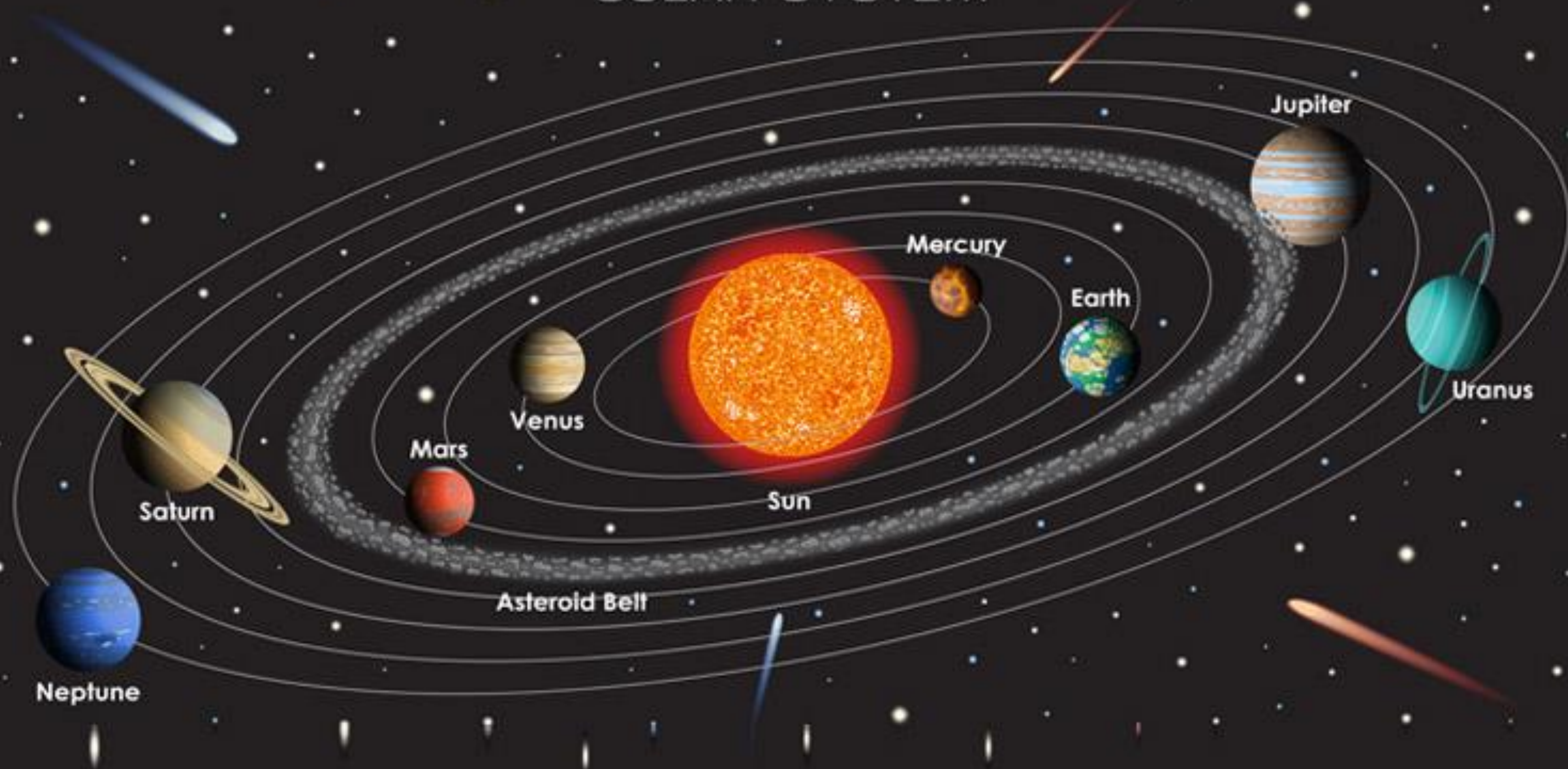
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Romans 9:23

What if He did this to make the riches of His glory known to the objects of His mercy, whom He prepared in advance for glory.

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SOLAR SYSTEM



Response #3

Humanity is to blame for sin.
God is to be thanked for
Salvation.

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Romans 9:22

22 What if God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction?

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Romans 1:18

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness.

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“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

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Response #3

Humanity is to blame for sin.
God is to be thanked for
Salvation.

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“What will amaze us as we look backward from eternity is not God’s justice but the greatness of his mercy.”

J. Oswald Sanders

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