

VESSELS OF MERCY
Romans 9:25-29

INTRODUCTION:

- A. God "raises up" vessels of wrath
 - 1) vs. 22
 - 2) They are "fitted" to destruction
 - B. God "prepares" vessels of mercy
 - 1) vs. 23
 - 2) Through these He reveals the riches of His glory
 - C. These "vessels of mercy", are called from all the races of man.
 - 1) vs. 24
 - 2) The same with vessels of wrath, e.g., the unbelieving Jews who did not enter the promised land.
 - 3) Paul quotes from the Old Testament
- I. The Prophecy of Hosea vs. 25-26
- A. "As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved." vs. 25
 - 1) Hosea 2:23
 - 2) "and they shall say, thou art my God"
 - B. "And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God." vs. 26
 - 1) Hosea 1:10
 - 2) "sons of the living God"
- II. The Prophecy of Isaiah vs. 27, 28, 29
- A. "Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved:" vs. 27
 - 1) Isaiah 10:22
 - 2) "remnant" = hupo + leimma = "the less of two parts", "remains", "a secret remnant"
 - 3) "Though the Israelites be countless as the sands of the sea--NEB, "only a remnant of them shall escape" TENT
 - 4) Only a remnant will return to the true and living God from Assyrian bondage. They are the, "vessels of mercy"
 - B. "For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness:" vs. 28a
 - 1) God will bring the thing to an end
 - 2) He will do it speedily
 - 3) It will manifest justice

- C. "because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth"
vs. 28b
- 1) "short" = suntemno = "to make concise"
 - 2) "The Lord will quickly end His dealings with the earth"
- D. "And as Esaias said before, except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha." vs. 29
- 1) "sabaoth" = "hosts", "armies" God's army
 - 2) "left us a seed", the word "seed" in Hebrew means one surviving or escaping, the small portion that remains from harvest, to be used for seed next season.
 - 3) The principle stated here is plain. God will preserve a small group out of every situation. God preserved a small group in Israel that preserved the entire nation. Ten righteous people would have saved the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha.

III. The Principle Applied Today

- A. There is a great apostasy
- 1) This is not an increase in sin
 - 2) The Lord's people are turning away from Him. They are turning to the flesh.
 - 3) The church has become the center of life. It is the focal point for everyday activities. Nursery, kindergarten, elementary, secondary, college, sports, exercise, fashion shows, fellowships. The church claims all and insists on all.
 - 4) The chief reason for a dramatic decline in the spiritual power of His body.
 - 5) Worship and learning
- B. God will preserve seed
- 1) Landmark Missionary Baptist Churches are dying! No, they are loosing excess, flab, fat and ugly cellulose!
 - 2) God will see to our survival.

