

## ***Grief Over Others' Unbelief*** **Romans 9:1-5**

**In Chapters 9-11 Paul explains God's faithfulness to fulfill His plans for the nation of Israel despite its present rejection of the gospel.**

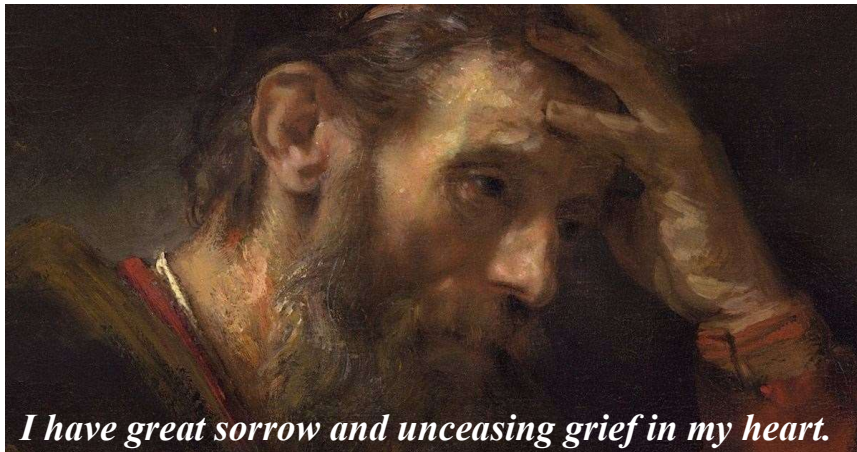
### ***Paul's painful grief expressed over Israelite unbelief. 9:1-3***

- ◆What an emotional swing from 8:31-39! *I'm not lying*, Gal. 1:20, II Cor. 11:31 (Paul's conscience and the Holy Spirit = two witnesses)
- ◆*I could wish/pray (if possible) to be cursed*. For *separated*, see 8:35,39. Paul's concern resembles Ex. 32:31,32, II Sam. 18:33.
- ◆Some types of grief are more important than others; this is good grief!

### ***Privileged position wasted because of Israelite unbelief. 9:4-5***

- ◆A list of Jewish privileges reveals a blown opportunity (recall 3:1,2): **adoption as sons**, Ex. 4:22, Deut. 14:1; **glory**, Ex. 16:7,10, 4:34; **covenants**, Eph. 2:12; **giving of the Law**, Deut. 4:8, Ps. 147:19,20; **service**, Heb. 9:6, temple sacrificial worship; **promises**, 4:13ff., II Sam. 7:12,16, Jer. 31:31ff.; **fathers**, 11:28, **from whom is Christ**, Jn. 1:11-1, 4:22.
- ◆9:5b refers to Jesus as God over all, who is blessed forever.

Paul grieved over his people's unbelief in view of their rich religious heritage. It was a motivating factor for him . . . how about us?



***I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart.***