

# The Potter And The Vessels

Rom. 9:19-24

1. Paul explains to unbelieving Jews the bad news that they are members of an accursed nation, separated from Christ (Rom. 9:1-13).

--Now, God has cast away the bulk of the nation and has postponed the fulfillment of His Prophetic Program for Israel.

b. Now, He is only dealing with a small remnant, while He preserves their ministry by having them record it in the Scriptures, after which they will die off the scene.

2. But there is Good News as well (Rom. 9:14-18).

a. Like what He did at the Golden Calf Incident, instead of using their sinfulness and rebellion to display His wrath and judgment against them, He is using it to display His Mercy and Grace.

b. Like what He did at the Exodus through with Pharaoh, He has not permanently ended His Prophetic Program with Israel, He has just postponed it while He carries out another Purpose to make His Name (Glory) and Power known through the apostleship of Paul.

Wonder of Wonder/Glory of Glories! In doing this, God is giving the Jews (and Gentiles) an opportunity to be involved in something even grander and greater than Israel's Grand and Great Prophetic Program to re-establish God's Glory on the Earth. They can be involved in the Body of Christ's Mystery Program to re-establish God's Glory in the Heavens.

- a. Israel's Prophetic Program broke Satan's rule on earth.
- b. The Body of Christ's Mystery Program breaks Satan's rule in the Heavens, bringing him and his kingdom to complete destruction.

4. Is it any wonder that the Jews said Paul was LYING!

IS IT ANY WONDER THAT PAUL BEGINS THE SECTION  
WITH, NO, I LIE NOT (Rom. 9:1)!!!

5. Paul is trying to move them from saying: Paul's Gospel is too bad to be true to saying:

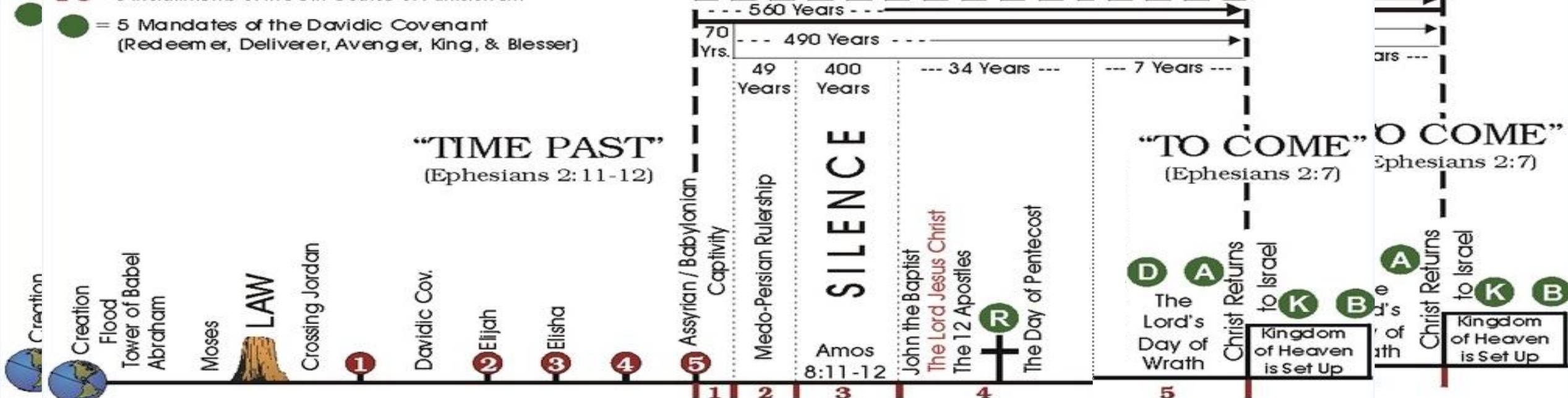
IT IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! But it is true anyway! They should embrace it in awe and wonder, thankfulness and joy.

6. This message of Grace and Mercy (the preaching of Paul) will cause hardening when it is rejected in unbelief but extends mercy, softens, when received in faith.
  - a. The same message of deliverance that softened Moses heart in faith, is the same message that hardened Pharaoh's heart in unbelief.
  - b. The same sun that softens the butter hardens the clay.
  - c. Paul's appeal to the unbelieving Jews is to not let this message harden their hearts because of unbelief, but let it soften their already hardened hearts in belief.

7. Rom. 9:19-20: Is there unrighteousness with God because His displeasure of national Israel lasts a long time?
  - a. Doesn't His use of Israel's rebellion for His own good mean Israel should not be held accountable (Rom. 3:5, 6:1)?
  - b. It has been 20 plus years since Pentecost. Isn't that long enough. Why is God still angry with Israel. Does that mean God is permanently done with National Israel (2 Pet. 3:1-16)?  
--they need to add Paul's revelation into the equation of their thinking.

- = 5 Courses of Punishment (Lev. 26)
- 1-5 = 5 Installments of the 5th Course of Punishment
- = 5 Mandates of the Davidic Covenant (Redeemer, Deliverer, Avenger, King, & Blessor)

### TIMES OF THE GENTILES



ISRAEL - "The Circumcision" - "nigh unto God"

THE LAW serves as a "middle wall of partition."

GENTILES - "Uncircumcision" "far off" "without God"

Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled

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Genesis	Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deut.	Josh.	Jud. Ruth 1 Sam 1-16	1 Sam 16 to 1 Kgs 12	1 Kgs 12 to 22	2 Kgs 1 to 10:31	2 Kgs 10:32 to 16:20	2 Kgs 17:1 to 25:30	Ezr Neh Est	The Silence of God	Matthew Mark Luke John	Acts 1-8	Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation	Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation
				1 and 2 Chronicles		Isa, Jer, Lam, Ezk, Dan, Hos, Joel, Amos, Oba, Jon, Mic, Nah, Hab, Zeph, Hag, Zec, Mal.		Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon						

8. Four types of vessels (Rom. 9:21-24):
  1. Vessel (singular) of Dishonor—Nation of Israel in apostasy, esp. 5<sup>th</sup> COP, beginning with the Babylonian Captivity (Jer. 18:1-13; Hos. 8:8).
  2. Vessel (singular) of Honor—Nation of Israel in faith—Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming (Ex. 19:5-6).
  3. Vessels (plural) of Wrath—unbelieving National Israel and the Gentile Nations (culmination of this in Ps. 2).
  4. Vessels (plural) of Mercy—believing Jews and Gentiles in the Dispensation of Grace—to bruise Satan—announce to the Satanic realm in the Heavens that they are defeated (Rom. 11:28-32; 16:20; Book of Ephesians).