

**"Jacob I Loved, Esau I Hated" Romans 9:10-13 LARGENT**

- Question- "God hated Esau? – Reconcile with God loves everyone?"
- How do you define hate? Hate when I was a kid. Hate now!

Found in Romans 9:10-13- <sup>10</sup> *Not only that, but Rebekah's children were conceived at the same time by our father Isaac.* <sup>11</sup> *Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad—in order that God's purpose in election might stand:* <sup>12</sup> *not by works but by him who calls—she was told, "The older will serve the younger."* (Genesis 25:23 – First Book of the O.T.) <sup>13</sup> *Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."* (Malachi 1:2-3 – Last Book of Old Testament)

- Let me begin with the easiest explanation by using Jesus own words in Luke 14:25-27.

Luke 14:25-27 <sup>25</sup> *Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:* <sup>26</sup> *"If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.* <sup>27</sup> *And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.*

- Is Jesus telling you to hate your parents?
- Obviously, Jesus isn't telling us to disobey the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment to honor your father and mother.
- You can't choose your mom or dad or kids or brothers or sisters or even your own life over Jesus and be his disciple.
- It doesn't mean to actually not love or hate. It's the magnitude of the choice. Jesus over the others.
- Not affection but choice & priority. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you.

**Romans chapter 9 makes it abundantly clear that loving Jacob and hating Esau was entirely related to which of them God chose. God chose Jacob to bear the nation that Jesus, the Elect one would come through.**

- Is this saying God hated Esau before he was born? Does God hate the Unborn? Is it saying all babies that aren't predestined for salvation are hated by God even before they are born?

- Let me assure you. God doesn't hate any unborn babies.

Gen. 25:21-23 <sup>21</sup> *Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.* <sup>22</sup> *The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.* <sup>23</sup> *The LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger*

- God could have just given Rebekah one child and not twins. But Romans 9:11 says there are two and one is chose and the other isn't in order that God's purpose in election might stand:
- This is BEFORE they were born. It doesn't say God hated Esau. It says the older will serve the younger.

- Before either twin was even born and did anything good or bad, God chose which son's descendants would be the nation that Jesus comes from. That's before they were born.

**Notice:** It says nothing about hating one or the other. Nothing to support the idea that God loves some elect babies to be saved & hates others.

- As a matter of fact, if we look at the Biblical chronology, God doesn't even reveal his hatred for Esau until after both Esau and Jacob & dead and gone. When it is speaks about the House of Esau in a prophecy in Obadiah.

**Obadiah 1:10** -*Because of the violence against your brother Jacob, you will be covered with shame; you will be destroyed forever.*

- This is clearly talking about the acts of violence done against Israel (Jacob's descendants) by the Edomites (Esau's Descendants). Nation against Nation.

- So, follow me back to our Romans 9 passage. It says, "Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." Where is that found?

- It's the last book of the Old Testament written hundreds of years after Jacob and Esau lived on earth and both Obadiah and Malachi are reflecting on the Edomites (Name for nation that came from Esau), attacks against Israel throughout their writings.

**Malachi 1:2-3** <sup>2</sup> *"I have loved you," says the LORD. "But you ask, 'How have you loved us?' "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob, <sup>3</sup> but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals."*

- The hatred in Romans 9 is referring to God's actions toward the people that were rejecting and attacking God's elect who were to instruments for bringing salvation to all people.
- Esau isn't hated at the beginning of the New Testament before He is born. It's not until the nation mistreats Israel that Obadiah and Malachi speak of God's hate for the Edomites.
- In Malachi, we see this is how Esau's descendants as a whole responded to Jacob's descendants or Israel or the elect on chosen by God to bring salvation through.
- Read Malachi 1:1-4 – The hypothetical question posed by Israel is "How have you loved us?"
- The answer is that God opposed those who were against them.
- If someone picks on my son, I show I love my son by being against the one would goes against Him. I pick sides!
- God is proving He favors Israel, by opposing those who attack them.

- **BIG CONTEXT.** What is the question the Jews in the Pews are asking?
- **Has God's purpose in electing failed since so many of the Israelites have rejected Jesus (God's predestined means of salvation)?**
- **No.** All Paul is trying to do is prove that God's purpose in electing Israel hasn't failed.  
**And He's proving it by showing that even twin brothers are not both selected to fulfill the promise of salvation to all the families of the earth.**
- God made a choice to offer salvation to all mankind through specific people who would become a specific nation. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and ultimately Jesus.
- **Who did God elect to save through? JESUS.** Jesus is the elect.
- God loves all mankind, therefore He created a way for you and I to be saved, which involved choosing a way and that would be made available to all.
- **That choice of Jacob over Esau before they were born only means that God created His plan of how to save and who to use to do it, before Jacob or Esau said or did anything.**
- Jacob was picked for this purpose. That was predestined. Israel was picked so God could love all through Jesus who came from Israel
- **John 14:6** says, *"I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* – **WHY? God predestined this means of salvation for all people.**

**God choosing the means and nation and person by which He would offer salvation to people of all nations, leaves all people and nations with the responsibility to respond.**

- **If this section isn't about God predestining Jacob before He was born to heaven and Predestining Esau before he was born to hell, then what is it about and why is it here.**
- **God promised Abraham in Gen. 12 that he would bless those who bless Abraham and curse those who curse him.**
- **Paul is explaining that that this applies even to people who are descendants of Abraham like the Edomites.**
- **The Edomites attacked Israel, but their lineage doesn't protect them.**
- If you oppose God's plan for God's hatred on you or curse is based on your opposition, not determined before you were ever born.
- **As you can see, the Calvinistic view of Romans 9's "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated", clearly distorts what Paul is saying. And it slanders God's character.**

**Never accept a theology that says that God hates most people on earth before they are ever born. Instead, look to the cross to see the truth about how he feels about them. He loves them to death.**