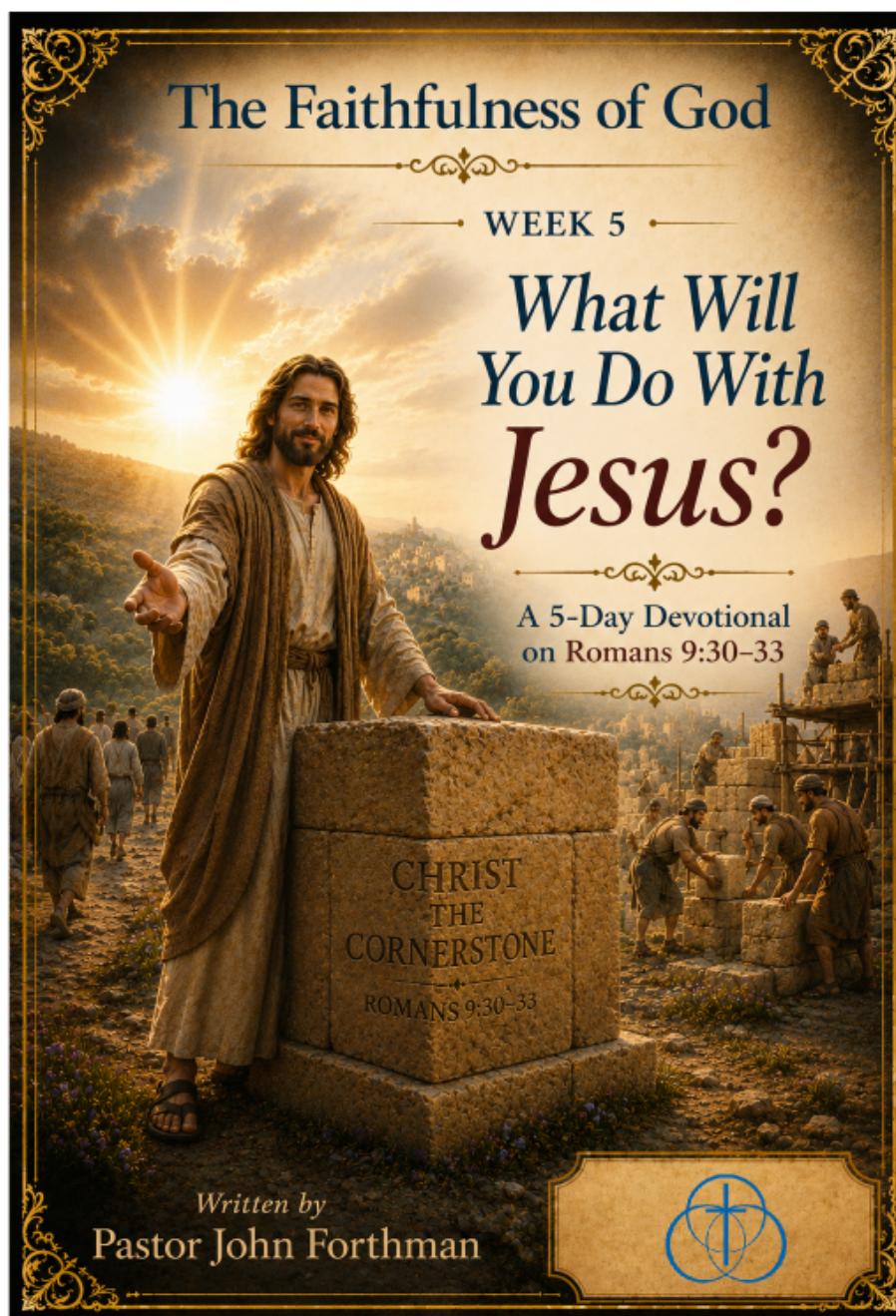




A 5-Day Devotional on Romans 9:30-33 • Pastor John Forthman

Day 1 - The Greatest Gift

Scripture: Romans 9:5 - "...from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen."

Reflection

Paul began Romans 9 by listing Israel's greatest blessings. The adoption. The covenants. The Law. The promises. The patriarchs.

Then he saved the greatest blessing for last: Christ.

God's greatest gift has never been a law, a building, or even a nation. God's greatest gift is His Son.

Every blessing we enjoy today ultimately comes through Jesus. Forgiveness. Hope. Peace. Eternal life. All of it is found in Him.

As we begin this week, don't rush past that truth. Before God asks anything of us, He has already given us His greatest gift.

Questions for Reflection

- Do I treasure Christ above every other blessing?
- What gifts from God have I enjoyed because of Jesus?
- How can I thank God for His greatest gift today?

Prayer: Father, thank You for giving Your Son. Help me treasure Jesus above every other blessing in my life. Amen.

Day 2 - Faith Receives What Works Never Could

Scripture: Romans 9:30 - "...the righteousness which is by faith."

Reflection

The world teaches us to earn. Earn a degree. Earn a paycheck. Earn respect. Earn approval.

The Gospel teaches something radically different.

Righteousness cannot be earned. It can only be received.

Faith is not another work we perform. Faith is the open hand that receives what Christ has already accomplished.

That is wonderfully freeing. Your relationship with God does not rest upon your ability to perform. It rests upon Christ's finished work.

Questions for Reflection

- Where am I tempted to earn God's approval?
- How does the Gospel free me from performance?
- What does it mean to rest in Christ today?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for accomplishing what I never could. Help me rest in Your finished work instead of my own efforts. Amen.

Day 3 - Build On The Cornerstone

Scripture: Isaiah 28:16 - *"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone... a precious cornerstone..."*

Reflection

Every building needs a solid foundation. If the foundation shifts, everything built upon it eventually suffers.

Jesus calls Himself our foundation. Not simply part of life. The foundation of life.

Many things compete to become the cornerstone of our hearts. Success. Comfort. Relationships. Money. Reputation.

Even good things can become misplaced foundations.

Only Christ is strong enough to bear the weight of your life. Everything else eventually cracks under the pressure.

Questions for Reflection

- What has been competing with Christ for first place in my life?
- Is every area of my life aligned with Him?
- How can I make Christ the true Cornerstone today?

Prayer: Lord, be the foundation of every part of my life. Align my heart, my priorities, and my decisions with You. Amen.

Day 4 - Do Not Be Ashamed

Scripture: Romans 9:33 - *"Whoever believes upon Him will not be put to shame."*

Reflection

Following Jesus doesn't mean life will always be easy. It does mean your hope will never disappoint you.

There may be moments when your faith is misunderstood. There may be seasons when obedience is costly.

But God promises that those who trust Christ will never be put to shame.

The world offers many promises that ultimately fail. Jesus never does.

Our confidence is not in ourselves. It is in the One who is forever faithful.

Questions for Reflection

- Where do I need greater confidence in Christ?
- Have I allowed fear to keep me from living boldly for Him?
- How does today's promise encourage me?

Prayer: Father, strengthen my faith and help me live confidently for Christ, knowing that my hope in Him will never be put to shame. Amen.

Day 5 - What Will You Do With Christ?

Scripture: Joshua 24:15 - "Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve..."

Reflection

Our journey through Romans 9 ends where every journey of faith must end - with a decision. What will you do with Christ?

That question is not asked only once in life. Followers of Jesus answer it every day. Will I trust Him today? Will I obey Him today? Will I surrender this situation to Him today?

Every day we choose whether Christ will truly remain the Cornerstone of our lives.

As this devotional series comes to an end, don't simply admire Jesus. Build upon Him. Trust Him. Follow Him. Everything God has revealed throughout Romans 9 has been leading to this invitation.

Questions for Reflection

- What is Jesus asking me to trust Him with today?
- Is there any area of my life not fully surrendered to Him?
- How will I continue building my life upon Christ this week?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for being my Cornerstone. I choose today to trust You, follow You, and build every part of my life upon You. Keep my heart faithful until the day I see You face to face. Amen.