

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at vbc.online/events for more detailed information.
You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting admin@thecrossing.org.

- Gospel-Centered Parenting Class Begins - Wednesday, March 4th @ 7 pm
 - EXTOL Prayer & Praise - Thursday, March 5th @ 7 pm
 - Young Adults HUME Trip - March 6th - 8th
- Single Service 10 am + Indoor Potluck Picnic - Sunday, March 8th
- Women's Ministry EQUIP 2020 - Saturday, March 21st @ 8:30 am
- VBC Spring Co-ed Softball Begins - Tuesday, March 24th @ 6:30 pm
- Serve Day @ the Arabic Church of Sacramento - Saturday, March 28th @ 9 am
 - Small Group Leader Training - Saturday, April 4th @ 9 am

GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here!
Scan the QR code below to download our VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at www.vbc.online/new-here

SONGS & SERMONS

"Echo" - Israel Houghton, Matthew Ntlele, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, Alexander Pappas

"Exalted Over All" - Andi Rozier, Jason Ingram, Jess Cates

"Only Wise God" - Valley Bible Worship

"Do It Again" - Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Matt Redman, Steven Furtick

"In Christ Alone" - Stanfill

To listen or watch today's message, visit www.vbc.online/media

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.....\$34,979.00
Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$279,832.00

Giving Last Week.....\$33,491.00
Y-T-D Giving.....\$280,155.00

Visit vbc.online/give for more info on ways to give.

ROMANS

THE RELIABILITY OF GOD

03/01/20 | MUSIC: BEN WONG & DAN GILLETTE | MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MESSAGE NOTES

Is God fair in how He deals with people?
Romans 9:14-18

But doesn't the explanation to verse 6a point to God's injustice? No way! (9:14).

Rom. 9:14 *What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means!*

God has the freedom to bestow mercy or to harden so as to fulfill His promises (9:15-18).

1. Example #1: God freely bestowed mercy on undeserving Israel (15-16).

Rom. 9:15 *For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." 16 So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.*

Ex. 32:11 *But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? 12 Why should the Egyptians say, 'With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. 13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'" 14 And the Lord relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.*



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Ex. 32:31 So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. **32** But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written."

Ex. 33:16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?"

2. Example #2: God freely hardened the deserving Pharaoh (17-18).

Rom. 9:17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." **18** So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

Ex. 8:15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, he hardened his heart and would not listen to them, as the Lord had said. . . . **19** Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said. . . . **32** But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and did not let the people go.

Ex. 9:34 But when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet again and hardened his heart, he and his servants.

Can we know upon whom God will show mercy? Harden?

1. He hardens those already progressing down the road of hardness.

Acts 28:27 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

James 4:6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Rom. 11:20 That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear.

2. He shows mercy to all who "bow" before Him in trusting humility.

Heb. 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

James 4:6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

3. Understanding these principles greatly aids us in life & ministry!