

# INSIGHTS ON ROMANS: THE CHRISTIAN'S CONSTITUTION

## STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT PREDESTINATION

ROMANS 9:1–33



### The Heart of the Matter

Few topics have sparked as many theological debates as the subject of divine predestination. Unfortunately, all those debates have generated a lot more heat than light. In fact, this doctrine is still one of the most misunderstood and misapplied truths among God's people. Human opinion and horizontal logic have eclipsed the clear and forthright teaching of the Scriptures. Some have gone to dogmatic extremes in their position; many others have pulled back, choosing to ignore the issue entirely. Let's look into one of the most significant chapters in the Bible that addresses this subject head-on. While it doesn't answer all of our questions, it does focus on some of the core concepts that are central to our understanding of this important doctrine. May we calmly approach it with open minds and teachable spirits.



### Discovering the Way

#### 1. The Context of Romans 9 (Romans 9:1–5)

The book of Romans sets forth God's plan of salvation, not just the moment of conversion, but also the reasons for and means by which God credits believing sinners with His righteousness. However, what will happen to the Jews, a people blessed through history but who have rejected the gospel of Jesus?

#### 2. Some Truths about Predestination (Romans 9:6–33)

Romans 9 reveals four truths about predestination. It begins with the sovereign choice of

God, it upholds the perfect character of God, it identifies the specific responsibilities of God, and it defines the consistent plan of God.

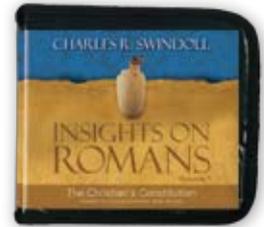


### Starting Your Journey

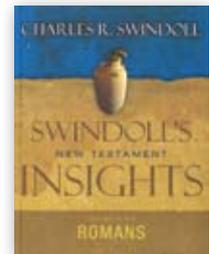
Those who hear about predestination often make one of two erroneous responses, either "I'll do it myself" or "I'll do nothing because God does it all."



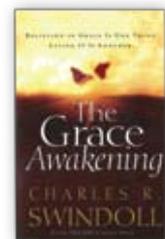
### Tools for Digging Deeper



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