

Gospel



THE GOSPEL AND A BURDEN FOR THE LOST

Lesson 11

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Romans 9:1-3

I. Have You Ever Felt Anguish?



**“I am preaching the truth
in Christ – I am not lying;
my conscience bears me
witness in the Holy Spirit
– that I have great sorrow
and unceasing anguish in
my heart. For I could
wish that I myself were**

**cut off from Christ for the
sake of my brothers, my
kinsman according to the
flesh.”**

~ Romans 9:1-3

II. The Heart-Rending Pain Of Wanting The Lost To Get Found

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- 1. Paul is in anguish over
Israel's unbelief.**

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in Christ – I am not lying;
my conscience bears me
witness in the Holy Spirit
– that I have great sorrow
and unceasing anguish in
my heart.”**

~ Romans 9:1-2

“But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to

**the Way, men or women,
he might bring them
bound to Jerusalem. Now
as he went on his way, he
approached Damascus,
and suddenly a light from
heaven flashed around
him. And falling to the**

**ground he heard a voice
saying to him, “Saul,
Saul, why are you
persecuting me?” And he
said, “Who are you,
Lord?” And he said, “I
am Jesus, whom you are
persecuting. But rise and**

enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground,

and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing...So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to

**you on the road by which
you came has sent me so
that you may regain your
sight and be filled with
the Holy Spirit. And
immediately something
like scales fell from his
eyes. Then he**

**rose and was baptized;
and taking food, he was
strengthened.”**

~ Acts 9:1-8, 17-18

***The gospel at work in
us produces a
compassionate burden
for anyone not in
Christ.***

**“Beware of over-
simplifying the heart of
God and the hearts of
loving saints. There are
more emotional
possibilities in this world
than you may think...
Beware of making your**

**present emotional
possibilities the standard
of God's.”**

~ John Piper

2. Paul was in good company in feeling anguish of soul over lost people.

**“My anguish, my anguish! /
writhe in pain! Oh the walls
of my heart! *My heart is
beating wildly;* I cannot
keep silent, for I hear the
sound of the trumpet, the
alarm of war.”**

~ Jeremiah 4:19

**“Then I turned my face to
the Lord God, seeking
him by prayer and fasting
and pleas for mercy *with
fasting and sackcloth and
ashes...*”**

~ Daniel 9:3

**“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
the city that kills the
prophets and stones those
sent to it! How often would
I have gathered your
children together as a hen
gathers her brood under her
wings, *and you would not!*”**

~ Matthew 23:37

3. Do we feel, even in smaller measure, what Paul felt for lost people?

“For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen, according to the flesh.”

~ Romans 9:3

3. Do we feel, even in smaller measure, what Paul felt for lost people?
4. God felt this for us, and acted out of love!

**“For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him
should not perish but have
eternal life. For God did not
send his Son into the world to
condemn the world, but in
order that the world might be
saved through him.”**

~ John 3:16-17

**“If I wish to have a
“Romans 9” kind of
burden for non-
Christians, I should
become practiced at
celebrating the gospel as
Paul does in Romans 5-8.
Over time, my joy in the**

**gospel will become
increasingly tinged with
grief, and this grief-
stained joy will lead to a
God-inspired passion to
my ministry of
evangelizing the lost.”**

~ Milton Vincent

**III. What Would it Look
Like To Not Only Feel
But ACT On Our
Anguish?**

III. What Would it Look Like To Not Only Feel But ACT On Our Anguish?

1. The Gospel and “Anguish”

4 Types of Churches, 4 Types of Christians

- *In the City*
- *Against the City*
- *With the City*
- *For the City*

~ Matt Carter

1. The Gospel and
“Anguish”
2. Turn Anguish into
Prayer!

**“Brothers, my hearts
desire and prayer to God
for them is that they may
be saved.”**

~ Romans 10:1

“The fruit of Paul’s anguish for his kinsmen who are accursed and cut off from Christ is to desire their salvation and to pray for them to be saved. Again, I say, don’t follow the reasonings of skeptical men

here. Don't say: There is no reason to pray for sinners if God is sovereign to save. Say instead, Because God is sovereign to save, I will pray for sinners with hope. Because Paul prayed for their salvation,

**I will pray. Because Christ
prayed on the cross for their
salvation, I will pray.
Because I have grief and
anguish in my heart, I will
pray.”**

~ John Piper

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us produces a
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for anyone not in
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