



# Gilcomston Church

**Sunday 21 July**

**...to make the riches of His glory known...**  
**Romans 9:23**

# **Morning Service**

**The Good Way**

**God's call**

**Romans 9:1-29**

**Rev Jerry Middleton**

**Praise waits for Thee in Zion, Lord:  
to Thee vows paid shall be.  
O Thou that hearer art of pray'r,  
all flesh shall come to Thee.**

**Iniquities, I must confess,  
prevail against me do;  
but as for our transgressions,  
them purge away shalt Thou.**

**Bless'd is the man whom Thou dost choose,  
and mak'st approach to Thee,  
that he within Thy courts, O Lord,  
may still a dweller be.**

**We surely shall be satisfy'd  
with Thy abundant grace,  
and with the goodness of Thy house,  
ev'n of Thy holy place.**

*Psalm 65 vv1-4*

**Prayer**

## Romans 9.1-29

**I speak the truth in Christ—I  
am not lying, my  
conscience confirms it  
through the Holy Spirit—<sup>2</sup> I  
have great sorrow and  
unceasing anguish in my  
heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish  
that I myself were cursed  
and cut off from Christ for  
the sake of my people,**

## Romans 9.1-29

**those of my own race,<sup>4</sup> the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises.**

## Romans 9.1-29

**<sup>5</sup> Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.**

**<sup>6</sup> It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.**

## Romans 9.1-29

**<sup>7</sup> Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."**

## Romans 9.1-29

**<sup>8</sup> In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.**

## Romans 9.1-29

9 For this was how the promise was stated: “At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son.”

# Children's Talk

**When the Father made us  
He knew we'd run from Him  
and try to hide our sin.**

**But He wanted to save us,  
His own were on His heart  
before He made the stars.**

**Oh, oh, no one is good, not even one.  
But God can make us daughters,  
God can make us sons.  
Jesus paid the price  
when He offered up His life  
so we could be part of God's great family.**

**When the Father draws us  
it's like a magnet's pull.**

**He's irresistible!**

**When the Spirit calls us  
He brings the dead to life  
He gives the blind new eyes.**

**Oh, oh, no one is good, not even one.**

**But God can make us daughters,**

**God can make us sons.**

**Jesus paid the price when He offered up His life  
so we could be part of God's great family.**

**When He calls, when He draws  
we are His forever.**

**He will never let you go,  
He will never let you go.**

**When He calls, when He draws  
we are His forever.**

**He will never let you go,  
He will never let you go.**

**Oh, oh, no one is good, not even one.  
But God can make us daughters,  
God can make us sons.  
Jesus paid the price  
when He offered up His life  
so we could be part of God's great family.**

**Jon Althoff and Bob Kauflin**

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**Prayer**

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
to receive the food of Your holy word.**

**Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen today  
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.**

**Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us  
all Your purposes, for Your glory.**

**Teach us Lord full obedience,  
holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
in the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise  
cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail;  
let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
that will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built  
as You fill the earth with Your glory.**

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# the good way

Romans 9.1-29

## Romans 9.1-29

**<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:**

## Romans 9.1-29

**<sup>12</sup> not by works but by him who calls—she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” <sup>13</sup> Just as it is written: “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”**

**<sup>14</sup> What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all!**

## Romans 9.1-29

**<sup>15</sup> For he says to Moses,  
“I will have mercy on  
whom I have mercy,  
and I will have  
compassion on whom I  
have compassion.”**

**<sup>16</sup> It does not, therefore,  
depend on human desire  
or effort, but on God’s  
mercy.**

## Romans 9.1-29

**<sup>17</sup> For Scripture says to Pharaoh: “I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” <sup>18</sup> Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.**

## Romans 9.1-29

**19 One of you will say to me: “Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?”**

**20 But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’”**

## Romans 9.1-29

**21 Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?**

## Romans 9.1-29

**22 What if God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction?**

## Romans 9.1-29

**<sup>23</sup> What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory— <sup>24</sup> even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles?**

## Romans 9.1-29

**25 As he says in Hosea:**

**“I will call them ‘my people’ who are not my people;**

**and I will call her ‘my loved one’ who is not my loved one,”**

## Romans 9.1-29

**26 and,**

**“In the very place where it  
was said to them,**

**‘You are not my people,’  
there they will be called  
‘children of the living  
God.’”**

## Romans 9.1-29

**27** Isaiah cries out  
concerning Israel:

**“Though the number of the  
Israelites be like the sand  
by the sea,**

**only the remnant will be  
saved.**

**28** For the Lord will carry out  
his sentence on earth  
with speed and finality.”

## Romans 9.1-29

**29 It is just as Isaiah said  
previously:**

**“Unless the Lord Almighty  
had left us descendants,  
we would have become  
like Sodom,  
we would have been  
like Gomorrah.”**

**Prayer**

**Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now I'm found;  
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and Grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that Grace appear,  
the hour I first believed!**

**My chains are gone. I've been set free,  
my God, my Saviour has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns,  
unending love, amazing Grace.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.**

**My chains are gone. I've been set free,  
my God, my Saviour has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns,  
unending love, amazing Grace.**

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
the sun forbear to shine.**

**But God who called me here below,  
will be forever mine, will be forever mine,  
You are forever mine.**

**John P Rees, John Newton, Edwin Othello Excell**

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**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all.  
Amen.**

# **Evening Service**

**Shaping The Future  
Immeasurably more  
1 Samuel 9:1-17  
Rev Jerry Middleton**

**I will sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me,  
how He left the realms of glory  
for the Cross on Calvary.  
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story  
of the Christ who died for me,  
sing it with His saints in glory,  
gathered by the crystal sea.**

**I was lost: but Jesus found me,  
found the sheep that went astray,  
raised me up and gently led me  
back into the narrow way.**

**Faint was I, and fears possessed me,  
bruised was I from many a fall;  
hope was gone, and shame distressed me:  
but His love has pardoned all.**

**Days of darkness still may meet me,  
sorrow's paths I oft may tread;  
but His presence still is with me,  
by His guiding hand I'm led.  
He will keep me till the river  
rolls its waters at my feet:  
then He'll bear me safely over,  
made by grace for glory meet.**

**Francis Harold Rowley 1854-1952**

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# Prayer

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**There was a Benjaminite,  
a man of standing,  
whose name was Kish  
son of Abiel, the son of  
Zeror, the son of  
Bekorath, the son of  
Aphiah of Benjamin.**

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**2 Kish had a son named Saul, as handsome a young man as could be found anywhere in Israel, and he was a head taller than anyone else.**

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**<sup>3</sup> Now the donkeys belonging to Saul's father Kish were lost, and Kish said to his son Saul, 'Take one of the servants with you and go and look for the donkeys.'**

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**4 So he passed through the hill country of Ephraim and through the area around Shalisha, but they did not find them. They went on into the district of Shaalim, but the donkeys were not there.**

## 1 Samuel 9. 1-17

Then he passed through the territory of Benjamin, but they did not find them. <sup>5</sup> When they reached the district of Zuph, Saul said to the servant who was with him,

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**, 'Come, let's go back,  
or my father will stop  
thinking about the  
donkeys and start  
worrying about us.'**

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**6 But the servant replied,  
'Look, in this town there is  
a man of God; he is  
highly respected, and  
everything he says  
comes true. Let's go  
there now. Perhaps he  
will tell us what way to  
take.'**

## 1 Samuel 9. 1-17

<sup>7</sup> Saul said to his servant, 'If we go, what can we give the man? The food in our sacks is gone. We have no gift to take to the man of God. What do we have?'

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**<sup>8</sup> The servant answered him again. 'Look,' he said, 'I have a quarter of a shekel of silver. I will give it to the man of God so that he will tell us what way to take.'**

## 1 Samuel 9. 1-17

⁹ (Formerly in Israel, if someone went to enquire of God, they would say, 'Come, let us go to the seer,' because the prophet of today used to be called a seer.)

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**<sup>10</sup> 'Good,' Saul said to his servant. 'Come, let's go.' So they set out for the town where the man of God was.**

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**11 As they were going up the hill to the town, they met some young women coming out to draw water, and they asked them, 'Is the seer here?'**

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

<sup>12</sup> 'He is,' they answered. 'He's ahead of you. Hurry now; he has just come to our town today, for the people have a sacrifice at the high place. <sup>13</sup> As soon as you enter the town, you will find him before he goes up to the high place to eat.'

## 1 Samuel 9. 1-17

The people will not begin eating until he comes, because he must bless the sacrifice; afterwards, those who are invited will eat. Go up now; you should find him about this time.'

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**14** They went up to the town, and as they were entering it, there was Samuel, coming towards them on his way up to the high place.

**15** Now the day before Saul came, the Lord had revealed this to Samuel:

## **1 Samuel 9. 1-17**

**16 'About this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin. Anoint him ruler over My people Israel; he will deliver them from the hand of the Philistines. I have looked on My people, for their cry has reached Me.'**

## 1 Samuel 9. 1-17

17 When Samuel caught sight of Saul, the Lord said to him, 'This is the man I spoke to you about; he will govern My people.'

**Glory to God, the source of all our mission;  
Jesus be praised,  
the Saviour, Lord and Son!  
Praise to the Spirit who confirms the vision;  
in all the world the will of God be done!**

**Proud in our wealth,  
or destitute and broken,  
we cannot live by earthly bread alone;  
but by the word  
that God Himself has spoken  
we are set free to make our Master known.**

**Eastward or westward,  
northward, southward moving,  
finding new fields,  
new patterns and new roles,  
Christ's fellow-workers,  
all His goodness proving,  
see how our God is making people whole!**

**Linked by the cross  
at which we are forgiven,  
joined by the love that  
came to find and save,  
one in the hope  
of God's new earth and heaven,  
we love and give  
since He first loved and gave.**

**Send us, Lord Christ,  
to serve at Your direction,  
dying and living, Yours in loss and gain,  
true to the gospel of Your resurrection,  
working and praying till You come to reign.**

**Christopher Idle**

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**Prayer**



**Always more!**

shaping the future

1 Samuel 9.<sup>1-17</sup>

**Prayer**

**What is our hope in life and death?**

**Christ alone, Christ alone.**

**What is our only confidence?**

**That our souls to Him belong.**

**Who holds our days within His hand?**

**What comes, apart from His command?**

**And what will keep us to the end?**

**The love of Christ, in which we stand.**

**O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.**

**What truth can calm the troubled soul?**

**God is good, God is good.**

**Where is His grace and goodness known?**

**In our great Redeemer's blood.**

**Who holds our faith when fears arise?**

**Who stands above the stormy trial?**

**Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
unto the shore, the rock of Christ?**

**O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.**

**Unto the grave, what shall we sing?**

**“Christ, He lives, Christ, He lives!”**

**And what reward will heaven bring?**

**Everlasting life with Him.**

**There we will rise to meet the Lord,  
then sin and death will be destroyed,**

**and we will feast in endless joy,**

**when Christ is ours forevermore.**

**O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.**

**Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Matt Papa**  
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**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all.  
Amen.**