

The Advantage of Being Jewish, Part 1

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 3:1-8.

B. Paul questions what the advantage of being Jewish is.

II. Jews in many cases have had little advantage historically.

III. Jews had no spiritual advantage either. The Jew has no spiritual securities for being Jewish alone. (Romans 2:29)

IV. The Jews respond by saying they were attacking God's people, promises and purity.

A. God's people.

1. They believed that Paul challenged God's credibility. (Deuteronomy 10:14; 14:2; Exodus 19:6; Isaiah 43:1)

2. Paul counters that the advantage of being Jewish is adoption, the glory of God, the covenants, the law, the promises and the Messiah as marks of God's care. (Romans 9:2; James 2; Amos 3:2; Matthew 22:1)

C. God's promises.

1. The Jews had the privilege of God's self-revelation, the Scriptures. (Deuteronomy 6)

2. Paul also counters that the unbelief of Israel is not the breaking of a promise by God. God has only postponed his fulfillment until the Jews again believe.

3. No matter what God does, he is right. David upheld the word and character of God. (Psalm 51:4)

Application Questions:

1. Why can God not be accused of breaking his promises to the Jews?

2. Why is it important for Christians to understand that Jews have no spiritual advantage?

3. In what ways are we called to defend God's character today? Explain.
