

JARS OF CLAY

2 Cor 4:7 (NIV)

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

Point : 1

There is no universal salvation .

Mat 3:9 (NIV)

And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

Rom 4:11 (NIV)

And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them.

Mat 4:17 (NIV)

*From that time on Jesus began to preach,
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."*

Ezek 33:11 (NIV)

Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'

Point : 2

God doesn't fail, but people do.

Rom 9:6 (NIV)

It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.

John 3:16-18 (NIV)

(John 3:16-18 NIV) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Luke 15:7 (NIV)

I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

Rom 2:4 (NIV)

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

Point : 3

God is a great conservationist .

Rom 9:21 (NIV)

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

Point : 4

Faith is key.

Rom 9:30-33 (NIV)

What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it. Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the "stumbling stone." As it is written: "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

Eph 2:8-9 (NIV)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast.

Rom 5:8 (NIV)

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Conclusion