

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

DATE: April 21, 2021

Wednesday Class: "Romans: God's **Good News** for the World"

TEXT: Romans 11:1-32

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS:

1. Theme:

"God did not reject His people, whom he foreknew" (vs. 2a; **compare** 28b-29, and 3:3-4)

2. Outline:

A. Israel's rejection is not _____ (vss. 1-10)

God's always had a remnant among Abraham's desc. through whom He will fulfill His promises.

B. Israel's rejection is not _____ (vss. 11-24)

"Not at all". God has a bigger purpose; He will overrule their fall/rejection. His purpose is that as a result of their fall, salvation might come to the Gentiles, thus provoking Israel to envy. This envy is designed to bring Israel back to God eventually.

C. Israel's _____ is _____ (vss. 25-32)

Their future national conversion is confirmed by Scripture (vss. 26b-27; fr. Isa. 59:20-21). Israel's restoration is root in God's unswerving faithfulness to his promise and his election (vss. 28-29).

3. Target Audience: "I am speaking to _____ Gentiles" (vs. 13)

All second person pronouns in verses 13-32 refer to Gentiles. "You" appears _____ times.

4. Purpose:

To stifle the trend among Gentile Christians to "_____ " the Jews (vss. 18, 20, 25)

ISRAEL'S REJECTION IS NOT _____ (vss. 1-10)

Has God rejected his people? "By no means!" What evidence is offered to support his strong negation?

1. _____ (vs. 1b). Paul himself (a Jew) was proof (cp. 1 Tim. 1:13).

2. _____ (vs. 2a). See vss. 28b-29 and 3:3-4 (cp. Rom. 8:28-30).

3. _____ (vss. 2b-4). See 1 Kings 19:10, 14, 18.

4. _____ (vss. 5-10).

"So too" = as in Elijah's day, so it was in Paul's day. Despite widespread apostasy, a remnant remained.

In vss. 5-10 Paul divided the descendants of Israel (Jacob) into two groups:

A. The _____ group called "the _____" (vss. 5-6; "elect", vs. 7).

B. The _____ group called "the _____" (or "the rest").

ISRAEL'S REJECTION IS NOT _____ (vss. 11-24)

1. Instructions about Israel (to Gentiles). You, Gentiles, listen up! (vss. 11-16)

- A. Israel's fall is _____ permanent (11a).
"Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery?" Was this the only purpose?
- B. Israel's sin has been _____ (11b). See 11:30-31 and 8:28-30.
Israel's fall is tragic; but has been used by God in the accomplishment of a greater purpose.
- C. Israel's restoration will result in _____ riches for the world (12-15).
"Their fullness" is explained in verses 25-27.

NIV Study Bible Note on 11:15: *The sequence of redemptive events is: The "transgression" & "loss" (vs. 12) of Israel **leads to** the salvation of the Gentiles, **which leads to** the jealousy or envy of Israel, **which leads to** the "fullness" (vs. 12) of Israel when the hardening is removed, **which leads to** even more riches for the Gentiles.*

This "chain of blessing" is a chain with 3 links: (1) from Israel to the Gentiles; (2) from the Gentiles back to Israel; (3) from Israel to the Gentiles again.

This "chain of blessing with 3 links" by which God's blessing oscillates between Israel and the Gentiles is at the heart of this entire section (vss. 11-31).

- D. Israel's _____ is guaranteed by its "past" (16).
Israel "past" = God's covenant with Abraham, expanded in the Land, Davidic, & New covenants.

2. Warnings for Gentiles (vss. 17-24)

Here in these verses Paul expands the root and branches metaphor just used in verse 16b.

- A. Paul's _____
- 1) The root of the tree (a cultivated olive tree) is Abraham and the unconditional covenant God made with him (vs. 16). "Root" = ethnic Israel desc. through Isaac and Jacob.
 - 2) Some of the branches have been broken off, referring to unbelieving Jews (17a). The branches remaining = the remnant of believing Jews (6b with 2:28-29).
 - 3) Now "a shoot" from a wild olive tree is grafted in, referring to the Gentiles (17b-23).
 - 4) The once-removed natural branches will someday be grafted back in, referring to the future repentant Israel (24).
 - 5) Paul summarized all this (actually verses 11-24) in verses 25-27.
- B. Paul's _____
- 1) He warns against _____ (17, 18)
"You do not support the root, but the root supports you." Thank God for Israel.

- 2) He warns against _____ (19)
Gentile advantage is the result, not the cause, of Israel's rejection.
- 3) He warns against _____ (20-24)
You Gentiles, don't think that you are going to be in this position forever!
 - a) The prophetic future of the Gentiles is _____.
 - b) The prophetic future of the Jews is _____ (vss. 25-27).

ISRAEL'S _____ IS _____ (vss. 25-32)

What Paul has been writing about in chs. 9-11; namely, Israel's corporate stumbling which is temporary, not permanent; this he now calls a "_____".

1. Paul's Profound Mystery. It has three components:

- A. Israel's hardening (her "rejection" vs. 15) is _____ (vs. 25).
"Israel has experienced a hardening in part" (vss. 1-10; esp. 5-7)
- B. Israel's hardening (her "rejection" vs. 15) is _____ (vs. 25).
"Until the full number of the Gentiles has come in" (vss. 11-24). When this happens, when the full number of the Gentiles has come in, then God will cause a revival of faith within Israel.
- C. Israel's salvation (her "fullness") is _____ (vss. 26-32).
"And so (in this way) all Israel will be saved" ["all Israel" = the great majority of Jews at the end of the Great Tribulation]. Just as there was national rejection of the Christ when He came the 1st time; so there will be national conversion when He comes the 2nd time. This prediction . . .
 - 1) Is confirmed by God's _____ (vss. 26b-17).
Paul quotes Isaiah 59:20, 21 & 27:9. (Israel's national conversion comes thru the promised Messiah (deliverer) and thru the promised Covenant (Jer. 31:31-37; Zech. 12:10-13:6).
 - 2) Is rooted in God's _____ (vss. 28, 29).
God will keep the unconditional covenant he made with Abraham (Gen. 15). Its promises are expanded in the unconditional Land Covenant, the Davidic Covenant, & New Covenant. The Abrahamic Covenant is the fountainhead of all Bible prophecy.
 - 3) Manifests God's _____ to all people (vss. 30-32).
"The chain of blessing with 3 links" ricochets from Israel to the Gentiles, from the Gentiles back to Israel, and from Israel to the Gentiles again.

2. Paul's Practical Purpose (vs. 25). I do not want you to be "ignorant" or "conceited."

Concluding Thoughts:

- 1) The Jew (ethnic Israel) is currently hardened (28a), but ultimately beloved (28b-29; 2a).
Thank God for Israel.
- 2) The Gentile is spiritually honored, but personally undeserving (12a, 15).
Thank God for His _____ (see 2 Pet. 3:9 and 3:15a).

TO GOD BE THE GLORY (11:33-36)

This doxology draws a clear line between the doctrinal section (chs. 1-11) and the final five chapters on Christian duty (chs. 12-16). For eleven chapters the apostle Paul has been giving his comprehensive account of the gospel. Before he continues to outline the practical implications of the gospel, he falls down before God and worships!

Thoughts on worship:

It is important to note from Romans 1:1-11:32 that theology (our belief about God) and doxology (our worship of God) should never be separated.

1) There can be no _____ without _____.

APPLICATION: The indispensable place of Scripture in . . .

- _____
- _____

2) There can be no _____ without _____.

There is something fundamentally flawed about a purely _____ interest in God.

3) "Beware equally of an _____ theology and of an _____ devotion" (Bishop Handley Moule at the end of the 19th century).

Paul begins with . . .

THREE _____ (vs. 33)

1. God's wisdom and knowledge are _____!

"Wisdom directs all things to the best end; knowledge knows that end and issue."

2. God's judgments are _____!

God's paths = what He does and where He goes. God's paths are His method by which He carries all His decrees, plans, and judgments into effect.

3. God's paths are _____! Compare Deuteronomy 29:29.

Paul continues with . . .

TWO OLD TESTAMENT _____ (vss. 34-35)

1. Verse 34 is a quote from Isaiah 40:13. It shows that . . .

God is the sole _____ of His wise plan!

2. Verse 35 is a quote from Job 41:11. It shows that . . .

God takes sole _____ for His acts!

Paul concludes with . . .

A THEOLOGICAL _____ (vs. 36)

"For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things."

1. God is the _____ from which "all things" come.

2. God is the _____ by which "all things" happen.

3. God is the _____ toward which "all things" are moving.