

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 10/24-25/2022 *Romans Chapter 11:1-32!*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 - Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

Theme of the Book of Romans: “Righteousness by Faith” – 1:16-17; *Romans Chapter 11* –

- **Review/overview of chapters 9-11;** The theme of these three chapters is **the whole question of the case and the condition of the Jews at the time of our Lord and of the Apostles.** Generally, the Jews were rejecting the gospel, being outside the church and the Gentiles were streaming in. Being a Jew himself, Paul showed at the beginning of chapters 9 & 10 of his great concern over his unbelieving countrymen. But not only that, he had a much deeper concern. He had ended chapter 8 on a tremendous note of assurance and of certainty. The purpose of **greater concern, and that was about the great question of the purpose and the plan of God.** God is so certain that nothing can frustrate it! But a question is immediately begged, how can that be said in the light of the position

and the condition of the Jews, God's own people. Is not their condition a proof, in and of itself, that the purpose of God is not sure? The purpose of these three chapters is to answer that question. If these things are properly understood, then there is ultimately no problem at all. Indeed, **they show that the exact opposite, that God's purpose always has been carried out, is being carried out and always will be to an absolute perfection and a final consummation!**

- **Chapter 9 starts this great demonstration.** Verse 6 is a key verse, saying "*They are not all Israel, which are of Israel.*" There is an Israel within Israel. It was never God's purpose or promise that the whole of physical Israel was going to be saved. His purpose was only to save the spiritual Israel. That purpose has been carrying on throughout the running centuries. Paul illustrates this with God making His choice of Isaac over Ishmael and Jacob over Esau, emphasizing the fact that salvation is entirely the result of the sovereign will of God. Anybody that is saved is solely the result of the election of God, His great sovereign purpose. We are all saved by that. But he equally emphasizes that we are responsible if we are in a state of condemnation. The great principle is that God saves, but man is responsible for his own rejection! The Jews are responsible for their position because they have rebelled against God, substituting their own ideas for God's sovereign purpose, and seeking salvation by the works of the law instead of accepting it by faith as the free gift of God.
- **In Chapter 10 we are shown the utter folly of the Jews** by pointing out that God's way of salvation has always been by faith and there is no other way at all! Salvation is therefore not dependent upon man's works, nor on anything in man, but completely upon God and His sovereign will, as it is obtained by faith, is as open to the Gentiles as to Jews. (**Rom 10:13**) *For "WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED."* It is God's calling that saves; therefore the gospel is to be preached to all and the one thing that matters is whether a man believes it and obeys it! (**Rom 10:16a**) *But they have not all obeyed the gospel*, which clinches this whole argument with regard to the Jews, in that the offer was made to them before it was ever made to the Gentiles. But the Jews sought it by keeping the law instead of realizing that it is always by faith. God did what He said He would do. God's purpose is certainly and surely being carried out, although presently, it is mainly through the Gentiles.
- **In Chapter 11, Paul goes further, looking into the future**, showing how this great and grand purpose of God is going to be carried out in its glorious fullness, both as regards Gentiles and Jews! What of the future? The Jews are outside. Are they always to be there? Has God's purpose with respect to the Jew finished? Paul says no, giving us a great preview of history, the ultimate purpose of God in all its fullness with respect to both the Jews and the Gentiles. He is now going to tell us what is going to happen to this nation, Israel!

Review: Rom 10:21 *But to Israel he says: "ALL DAY LONG I HAVE STRETCHED OUT MY HANDS TO A DISOBEDIENT AND CONTRARY PEOPLE."*

The Remnant of Israel

Rom 11:1 *I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.*

- **If you think that God has been stretching out His hand, they are not responding.** They are disobedient. Does that mean that God has cut them off, cutting them off from salvation and the blessings of God? Paul declares, certainly not or God forbid! For he himself is a descendant from Abraham, according to the flesh, from the tribe of Benjamin!

Rom 11:2 *God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying,*

Rom 11:3 *"**LORD, THEY HAVE KILLED YOUR PROPHETS AND TORN DOWN YOUR ALTARS, AND I ALONE AM LEFT, AND THEY SEEK MY LIFE**"? (1 Kgs 19:10,14)*

- **In the Old Testament, we remember how that Elijah had the contest** with the four hundred prophets of Baal there on Mount Carmel. And how they set up the alters. The prophets were to pray to Baal to light the fire on their alter. Elijah was to pray to Jehovah to light the fire on his alter. The god who answers by fire be acknowledged as the true and the living God. We were told how the prophets of Baal prayed all day with no results. Towards evening at the time of sacrifice, Elijah, just to rub it in, told them to pour water all over the sacrifice. Then to ask God to send the fire which did consume the sacrifice and the alter and the water in the

trenches round about. Jehovah was acknowledged as God. Elijah took the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal down to the brook and killed them. When the wicked queen, Jezebel, heard of what Elijah had done, she said, God, do so to me also if by tomorrow, I do not have the head of the prophet. Elijah fled from the presence of Jezebel, running all the way down to the Sinai. There he hid in a cave. The Lord came to him there and said Elijah, what are you doing here? When Elijah answered the Lord and said, I have been zealous for God. They have killed all of Your prophets. And they seek my life. That was repeated three times.

Rom 11:4 But what does the divine response say to him? "I HAVE RESERVED FOR MYSELF SEVEN THOUSAND MEN WHO HAVE NOT BOWED THE KNEE TO BAAL." (1 Kgs 19:18)

- **Paul declares that God has not cast away the Jews. I am a Jew.** Paul is really saying that not only am I a believer, but there are many other believing Jews also at this present time. In the past, Elijah felt that he was the only one left. They have killed all of Your prophets and now they are seeking to kill me. But the Lord said, I have seven thousand, God's faithful remnant, who have not bowed their knee to Baal. Today, we represent a small remnant but really when you look at our nation as a whole, where at one time it might have been classified as a Christian nation, it is so far from that today.
- **But God has His faithful remnant always.** Among the Jews, God has always had a faithful remnant. There are today among the Jews, a faithful remnant still, who believe in Jesus as their Messiah. God has always had His faithful remnant there whom He foreknew.

Rom 11:5 Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

- **God has related through grace** to His faithful remnant. Although the nation had rejected Jesus, because of God's grace, thousands of individual Jews had come to faith in Him.

Rom 11:6 And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.

- **The faithful remnant that God has elected are saved through the grace of God**, not by the works of the law. They have been called by God to receive His grace. Saved by grace and not by works. He shows that works and grace are mutually exclusive! If it is of grace then it cannot be of works because then grace is not grace. If we are saved by works, then it is not of grace because then works are not works. You are either saved by your faith in Jesus Christ in receiving the grace of God through Him or you are saved by the works of the law. It cannot be both! In Paul's time there was a strong Jewish influence in the church. They preached a mixture of faith plus works! But Paul said, no, that does not work. If it is of grace, then it cannot be of works because grace is not grace and the other way around!

Rom 11:7 What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect (those Jews saved by the election of God) have obtained it, and the rest were blinded.

- **Israel has not obtained what it seeks, that being a righteous standing before God.** They stumbled over Jesus. They were looking for their Messiah to establish a world governing body and take over the world. They stumbled at the fact that Jesus was crucified. They did not attain the righteousness because they stumbled at that stumbling stone.
- **Then in (Rom 10:3) For they, being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.** Israel has not attained that which what it was seeking because they sought it by works rather than by grace and by faith, believing in Jesus Christ. God says, look, because you believe in Jesus Christ, I account you righteous. That is the only basis for my righteous standing before God!
- **Israel has not obtained what it seeks but the elect**, a small remnant, *have obtained it, and the rest*, of Israel, *were blinded.* Only a small part of the Jews have really obtained the righteousness that they were seeking after. That was those who were elected by the grace of God. The rest of the Jews were blinded.

Rom 11:8 Just as it is written: "GOD HAS GIVEN THEM A SPIRIT OF STUPOR, EYES THAT THEY SHOULD NOT SEE AND EARS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT HEAR, TO THIS VERY

DAY." (*Isa 29:10,13; Deu 29:3,4*)

- **Just as it is written: Paul, in these three chapters, is really addressing the issue of Israel** rejecting their Messiah and the Gentiles being brought in and the sovereignty of God in this! Paul is emphasizing over and over again the Old Testament Scriptures, quoting some eighty different passages of Scriptures in these three chapters. Using the Scriptures, proving the things that he is saying. This is what God has said! This is what God has now done! We can see that God has done the things He said He would do!
- **God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see And ears that they should not hear, To this very day.** Even until this time, the Jews were blinded to the truth of Jesus, that He is their Messiah that God had promised to them. There is a remnant today. There are some Jews who have embraced Jesus as their Messiah. They are great witnesses for the Lord, being quite zealous for the Lord, but the rest are blinded. For those that have come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ, how glorious it is! That God has elected them by His grace that they should receive the light and the understanding that Jesus is the Messiah! But the rest are blinded still!

Rom 11:9 And David says: "LET THEIR TABLE (place of blessing) BECOME A SNARE AND A TRAP, A STUMBLING BLOCK AND A RECOMPENSE TO THEM.

Rom 11:10 LET THEIR EYES BE DARKENED, SO THAT THEY DO NOT SEE, AND BOW DOWN THEIR BACK ALWAYS." (*Psa 69:22-23*)

- **Paul quotes first from Isaiah. Then he says, and David says, giving us this principle.** If we do not obey God, His very blessings will become a curse to us. Is that not a part of the explanation of the state of the church and this country at the present time? Being so blessed by God and worshipping the blessings instead of God!
- **Their table – Which would include material and spiritual blessings, possibly also God's own word!** The Jews had been given the oracles of God, yet they were much more blind than the Gentiles who did not have them, being without knowledge or instruction whatsoever.
- **Is this not a word for us? That we become proud of our knowledge** of the Scriptures, but have lost the leading of the Holy Spirit, but are simply enjoying a kind of affluence, material as well as spiritual? The moment we begin to rest upon His blessings, taking pride in them, thinking that "we are the people," we fall into this very error that brought down this terrible calamity upon the children of Israel!

Gentiles Grafted In

Rom 11:11 I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles.

- **God has poured out His Spirit upon the Gentile nations,** drawing out from among them a people unto Himself, the church of Jesus Christ, the bride of Christ. Through the fall of Israel, through their stumbling, over the truth of Jesus, the gospel was opened to the Gentiles. The purpose of God is to provoke the Jews to jealousy, when they see how we are blessed of God because of our following after Jesus Christ.

Rom 11:12 Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!

- **If in their falling from this position, if it has brought such blessings upon the world,** what kind of blessings do you suppose it will bring when they again receive the *fullness* of God when they are restored? Just consider if Paul has brought such rich blessings. What will it be? It is going to be the kingdom of God established on the earth! Jesus will come! God's kingdom will be established! It will be a kingdom of righteousness! It will be a kingdom of peace! It will be a kingdom of joy! It will be a kingdom of blessing! It will be heaven on earth when God restores again His favors upon the nation of Israel.

Rom 11:13 For (but) I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry,

- **Paul is saying in effect to you Gentiles, If I did not put this whole question of the Jews** before you, I would not be doing my job properly. I would be neglecting an aspect of my ministry and of my calling. I am not sent

merely to bring you into the kingdom, I am here to build you up. So, I have to warn you against false notions about yourself and the Jews. I have to show you the relevance of all this to you. I am not neglecting you by telling you all this about the Jews. I am the Apostle to the Gentiles. I am magnifying my office in seeking to present you Gentiles perfect and entire in the presence of God!

- **It is only natural that a man magnifies that particular office that God has given him in the church.** Whatever position, whatever place, God has put you within the body. You should have that feeling, this is an important part of the body of Christ! Each of us have our place in the body. There is an interdependency within the body and the need each of us have for each other within the body of Christ. So, Paul magnifies his ministry.

Rom 11:14 if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them.

- **Paul got into a lot of trouble with his fellow Jews because of his ministry to the Gentiles.** He wanted to provoke them. He wanted to bring God's blessings to the Gentiles, but in his heart he was hoping that by their seeing what God was doing among the Gentiles, that the Jews would also embrace Jesus Christ. He was wanting to see them saved as he mentioned back in chapter 9. His heart's desire and prayer for Israel was that they should be saved!

Rom 11:15 For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

- **Paul is saying that it will be so wonderful and so glorious that we cannot compare it to anything else but life from the dead itself!** It is his way of expressing this exceeding great blessing, the same point as in verse twelve, 'how much more their fulness?' We have riches now, but when their fulness comes in, oh how glorious, how wonderful it will be!

Rom 11:16 For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

- **For if the firstfruit is holy, that is Abraham, Isaac, and the early fathers.** *The lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches.* The stock from which they came. God had blessed them. They were reaping the benefits of that.

Rom 11:17 And if some of the branches were broken off, and you (Gentiles), being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree (the people of God),

Rom 11:18 do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.

- **Some, not all, of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree,** Now he is describing us Gentiles. Here is this glorious tree. The roots in the early Jewish fathers. We are wild olive trees, outside of the covenant that God made with Abraham. Outside of the covenant that God made with David. Outside of the covenant and the promises of blessing that God has made has made to this nation if they would serve Him. Here we have been grafted in that we might partake of the promises of God and the blessings of God! Some try to dispensationalize to the place that they would exclude you from some of the promises. They do not exclude me! I read them and I say yes! I accept that! I take it as a promise unto me!
- **But do not boast against the branches, that are cut off!** What should be our attitude towards the Jews? It should be exactly the attitude that Paul had! Our hearts prayer and desire for Israel is that they might be saved! That the day will come when there will blindness no more, as regards to their Messiah. But that they will recognize that Jesus is indeed the Messiah. There will be a national conversion of Israel as they receive and accept Jesus as their Messiah!
- **But Paul is telling us that the day, unknown in advance to us, is going to come when the blindness will be removed!** What will that mean? But glory! Life from the dead! That is going to be a whole new ball game

when the work of God is wrought among the Jews. We are to love them. We are to pray for them, looking forward to that day when God works once more among them!

- **You remember in the book of Daniel, in the ninth chapter, he tells how that he was studying the prophecies of Jeremiah.** From the prophecies of Jeremiah, he realized that their captivity in Babylon was to be seventy years in duration. He had been there almost seventy years. He recognized that we are soon, going to be set free. He did not know but that God might use him as an instrument in a part of the repatriation of the nation. He sought by fasting and prayer, waiting upon God, really for the purpose of making himself available if God should desire to use him in the repatriation of the people.
- **As he was fasting and praying, the angel, Gabriel, came to him, telling him that there were seventy, sevens that were determined upon the nation of Israel.** In which God would complete His whole program. Know and understand, he said, from the time of the going forth of the commandment to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, there will be seven, sevens and sixty-two sevens. The walls will be built again in troubled times. But after these sixty-nine sevens the Messiah would come, but He would be cut off not receiving for Himself the kingdom. The Jews would be dispersed.
- **Now, we do know from the time the commandment went forth by Artaxerxes to Nehemiah to restore and rebuild Jerusalem to the coming of Jesus was the four hundred and eighty-three years, the sixty-nine sevens.** The seventieth, seven-year cycle, of which God is going to deal with the nation of Israel, will bring into completion of all of the prophecies, anoint the most holy place and all. That is yet future. There is a time gap between the sixty-ninth and the final seventieth, seven-year cycle for the nation of Israel.
- **In this gap we have the church age. We have the times of the Gentiles.** The Gentile rule over the world. But there is the seven-year period, still remaining, in which God is going to once again, deal with the nation of Israel. He will remove the blindness. During this period of time many of the Jews will become great evangelists and there will be a tremendous movement towards Jesus by the Jews during this seven-year period. Some of them will be martyred as a result of their faith in Jesus Christ, while others will live through the Great Tribulation, being preserved by God to enter into the glorious kingdom age when Jesus returns! For it is after this final seventieth, seven-year period, that Jesus will return to establish God's kingdom upon the earth. So, the gathering together again, life from the dead.
- **In the meantime, you are not to boast against the branches.** Why? *But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.* You do not support the root. The root supports you. You are sustained by God. You are not sustaining God. And you are just grafted in. Wild by nature. But God has grafted you in! You are not bearing the root. The root is supporting or bearing you!

Rom 11:19 *You will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in."*

Rom 11:20 *Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear.*

- **Our position now is one of faith. I stand in Christ, by faith.** I have been grafted in to partake of the blessings of God's kingdom. The blessings of fellowship with God, knowing God. Having this relationship with God. But that is a position of faith. God cut them off because of their unbelief. We are in Christ because of our faith.
- **Do not be haughty.** Do not be elated in the wonder of your privileges, so as to produce prideful self-confidence and boasting.
- **But fear** - This *fear* stands opposed to the spirit of boasting and self-confidence, against which he was exhorting them.

Rom 11:21 *For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either.*

- **The Gentiles who had their time, had the visitation of God's Spirit.** We had our time in which we believed and were received by God, but the general unbelief that is sweeping the world, bodes for evil days ahead. It means that the times of the Gentiles is about over! We have been grafted in! We have abided by faith but beware lest by unbelief the Gentiles may not be spared either!
- **I do believe that God is going to remove His church before the seven-year cycle,** the seventieth week of Daniel's prophecy, begins. Then God will again pour out His Spirit on the nation of Israel. But we stand by

faith! Thus, it is not because God saw any goodness in us or righteousness or whatever, He in His love chose us to wash and cleanse us from our sin and to make us a part of His family!

Rom 11:22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

- **The goodness and the severity of God.** His *goodness!* Oh, how good, God is! He has saved us! He has redeemed us! He has washed us from our sins! He has made us His children! He is put His Spirit within us, the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry out, Abba, Father! But we stand in faith!
- **Consider... 'and the severity of God'!** *Severity*, used only in this verse in the Bible, which is *apotomia*, meaning roughness, rigor, precipitous like a cliff. We must remember that God, being perfect, righteous, and just, must hate evil and must do away with all sin and defilement before there can be heaven on earth!
- **This is a very solemn warning of God.** It is one that we need to take heed and note. We stand by faith. If God cut off the natural branches and grafted in us unnaturally, our position is one of faith in which we abide. Jesus said, (**Joh 15:6**) *If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.*
- **If you continue in His goodness, otherwise you also will be cut off!** It is wrong for man to presume upon the grace of God! The Apostle warns over and over again, concerning those who would live after the flesh and follow after the deeds of the flesh. Paul's warning is that you will not inherit the kingdom of God. As Paul gives a list of the fleshly practices, he said for this cause the wrath of God came upon the children of disobedience. He is writing to the church, the warnings, repeated in **1 Corinthians 6, Ephesians 5 and in Galatians 5**, that those of the church are not to be living after the flesh. Not to be governed or to be ruled by your flesh, knowing that they that practice such things, will not inherit the kingdom of heaven!!

Rom 11:23 And they (the Jews) also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.

- **Paul is reasserting his great principle regarding the way of salvation** or of entry into the kingdom of God. What is it? It is always a matter of faith only. There is only one thing that admits anybody into the church of God and that is 'faith! There will never be any other way whatsoever. Salvation is always by faith, and by faith only. This is the cardinal doctrine of justification by faith only.
- **God is able and will graft them in again.** He will cause them *not to continue in unbelief!* Man is responsible for his damnation, but he is never responsible for his salvation. The doctrine of election must never be thought of as instructing that man is not responsible. Man is responsible. The Bible clearly teaches that if a man ends in damnation it is his fault and his responsibility! But it is equally clear that it is God who saved, and that no man saves himself!

Rom 11:24 For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

- **We Gentiles have an unnatural position. By the grace of God, He has brought us in.** The wild olive tree, grafted into the good tree, that it might receive the nourishment and the blessings. But the natural branches, God is able and will graft them in again.

The Mystery of Israel's Salvation

Rom 11:25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness (hardness, insensibility leading to blindness) in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

- **For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery.** The mystery which he is revealing is that Israel as a whole is going to be brought in! He speaks not of the possibility or the probability of the restoration of the Jews, as a nation, but of its absolute certainty! This is one of the most remarkable prophecies of the Bible! It is certainly one of the great prophecies of the Apostle Paul.

- ***That blindness in part has happened to Israel until.*** The blindness is not permanent, it is not everlasting. It is a temporary blindness. So, the blindness which has happened to Israel is something that has been put on them by God. As it is God Who inflicts this judicial blindness upon the Jews, it is God also Who sometime in the future is going to open their eyes, restoring them, and grafting them in again! It is always God's action, both the hardening and the restoring!
- ***The fullness of the Gentiles.*** In Luke 21, Jesus talked of the *times of the Gentiles*. That is different from *the fullness of the Gentiles*. The times of the Gentiles began when Nebuchadnezzar conquered Jerusalem. From that time, even today, they have not had a reigning king. Thus, we are still living in the times of the Gentiles. But the signs of the Gentiles is almost complete. For there in (***Luk 21:24b***) *And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.*
- **We are living, I believe, in just a short little space gap** in this intermediate stage from the times of the Gentiles being fulfilled when Jerusalem was again occupied by Israel and God's pouring out His Spirit again upon the nation of Israel. Now blindness has happened to Israel in part until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.
- **God is omniscient, knowing all things! He knows every Gentile who will receive Jesus Christ.** God has ordained and chosen which ones will believe in Jesus Christ, according to His foreknowledge. When that number is complete, when the fullness of the Gentiles has come in, then, I believe, the Lord will rapture the church! He will begin His seventieth, seven-year cycle on the nation of Israel, as He deals with them and pours out His Spirit and reveals Jesus as His Messiah. Then, the blindness is removed.
- **It is quite possible that at any moment the fullness of the Gentiles will be fulfilled!** I get excited every time there is an invitation, an alter call. I wonder, is the last one here that the Lord is drawing into the family of God? I do believe that we are that close! There is that fullness of the body of Christ that we are waiting for now that will bring the culmination of the times of the Gentiles and will bring again God's work among the Jews.

Rom 11:26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "THE DELIVERER WILL COME OUT OF ZION, AND HE WILL TURN AWAY UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB; (Isa 59:20,21)

- ***And so, all Israel.*** It means the bulk of the Jewish people, the Jews who still separate themselves and worship after the tradition of the fathers and reject the gospel will, as a whole, become believers and will come in! Its effect upon the whole church will be comparable to life from the dead!
- (***Zec 13:8***) *And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it.* Only a portion of the people of Israel will remain faithful to Christ and be alive in the end.
- ***Will be saved!*** What Paul is concerned about is the salvation of all Israel. He is not talking about the future of the Jewish nation from any governmental point of view, or even about the land of Israel. All he is talking about is its salvation, that the Jews are going to be saved in exactly the same way as anybody else!
- **The salvation that the Jews are going to experience is precisely the same as that which was being experienced then by the Gentiles, and by believing Jews and Gentiles today! They will come into the church in exactly the same way as everyone of us has come in, namely by repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!** God is going to work in a very powerful way among them again! They will be saved!
- **Paul, as he customarily does, wants now to confirm this prophetic utterance** of his by means of quotations from the Old Testament. But what is happening here is not simply that he is interpreting Old Testament prophecy. He is giving a new prophecy! He is uttering something that has been revealed to him in exactly the same way as the truth was revealed to the prophets of old! It is a new specific prophecy, but he says the same thing as was the general sense, taking phrases out of a number of Old Testament statements. (***Isa 59:20, 21; 27:9; Jer 31:31-34 and Psalms 14:7.***)
- **Apostolic prophetic utterance: *Out of Zion!*** Paul refers to (***Isa 59:20***) *"The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," Says the LORD.* It is speaking in a general sense. Notice the phrase, "The Redeemer will come to Zion, whereas Paul changes it to "***Out of Zion!***"
- Additionally, ***HE WILL TURN AWAY!*** (***Isa 59:20***) *"The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," Says the LORD.* Again, we see Paul making the corrective change for this situation, from "Those who turn from" to ***HE WILL TURN AWAY!***

- **If Paul had taken the exact quotation he would have said that He would come** for those who have turned from ungodliness. He is not saying that because he know that is not what is going to happen. What is going to happen is, that the Lord will turn Jacob from his transgression. It is His power that is going to do this. It is not going to be the case that the Jews at a given point are going to decide to believe the gospel. They cannot do that. Nobody can ever do that! This is always the action of the Lord! It is God Who hardened the heart of these unbelieving Jews! It is the same God Who is hardening them now is going to soften them! It is He Who is going to turn them from iniquity, turn away ungodliness from Jacob!

Rom 11:27 FOR THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS."
(Isa 27:9)

- **God has made a covenant. When I take away their sins from them,** what I will be doing will be to fulfil My covenant with them! He is going to do that again! When that day comes when God takes away the blindness and all. Then there will be this general conversion of the Jews as they weep over the fact that they were so foolish and so blind in rejecting Jesus as their Messiah. They shall mourn as one who mourns over an only son. (Zec 12:10) *"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.* God will cause them to recognize that Jesus is indeed the Messiah!

Rom 11:28 Concerning (as regards, according to) **the gospel they** (unsaved Israel) **are** (regarded as) **enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are** (regarded) **beloved for the sake of the fathers** (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob).

- **Concerning the gospel, they, the bulk of the nation, are regarded as enemies. The Jews were the great enemies** to the early church. They followed Paul. They dogged him. They brought all kinds of persecution against the early church, concerning the gospel they are enemies.
- **For your sake, enemies now of God. These who are regarded as beloved** for the sake of the fathers are at the same time now being regarded as enemies. Enemies now of God. But it is for your sake. It is because of their rejection that God opened the door wide to the Gentiles. They are enemies for your sake *but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.*

Rom 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable (without regret, without being sorry afterwards,).

- **The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.** God's sovereign election of Israel, like that of individual believers, is unconditional and unchangeable because it is rooted in His immutable nature and expressed in the unilateral, eternal Abrahamic covenant!

Rom 11:30 For as you (Gentiles) **were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience,**

- **For as you were once disobedient to God. Paul is talking now to the Gentiles.** In times past, you did not believe in God. They believed in all of the gods of the Greeks and the Romans. They were pantheists.
- **Yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience.** The fact that they rejected, opened the door, and now you have obtained the mercy of God through their disobedience or unbelief!

Rom 11:31 even so these (the 'Israel' referred to in verses 25-26) **also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you** (the Gentiles) **they** (the Jews) **also may obtain mercy.**

- **In other words, they have to come now just like we come, as sinners to receive the grace of God and salvation through Jesus Christ.** There is no special dispensation for them at this point. Jesus speaking to His Jewish disciples, said, (Joh 14:6b) *I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

Rom 11:32 For God has committed them all (all sorts and types of Jews and Gentiles), **to disobedience,**

that He might have mercy on all.

- **This glorious plan of God, allowing the blindness to happen to Israel in part,** that He might open the door to the Gentiles, drawing in from the Gentile nations a people after Him! When that number is complete, then once again, going back to Israel and opening the doors once again, wide for them. But we now all come the same way through the mercies of God, unto this place of salvation.
- **For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.** He has shut up in unbelief all types and kinds of mankind that are to be saved, whether Jews or Gentiles. His object in both cases is to show mercy and to make it clear that salvation is always only the result of the mercy of God!
- **That He might have mercy on all! All will be saved – Gentiles and Jews!** What Paul is concerned about is the salvation of all Israel. He is not talking about the future of the Jewish nation from any governmental point of view, or even about the land of Israel. All he is talking about is its salvation, that the Jews are going to be saved in exactly the same way as anybody else! The salvation that the Jews are going to experience is precisely the same as that which was being experienced then by the Gentiles, and by believing Jews and Gentiles today! They will come into the church in exactly the same way as everyone of us has come in, namely by repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ! God is going to work in a very powerful way among them again!
- **All sorts and types of Jews and Gentiles, they all will be saved! Oh, the mercies of God!**

NEXT WEEK!

(Rom 11:33-36) Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! [34] "FOR WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD? OR WHO HAS BECOME HIS COUNSELOR?" [35] "OR WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM AND IT SHALL BE REPAID TO HIM?" [36] For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

SUMMARY:

- **We need to consider at this point, after three chapters of proving God is not done with Israel, why did Paul then erupt** with one of the greatest praise and glorious doxologies to God, in all the Scriptures?
- **What impact has the teaching of chapters 9-11, had on me?** Have the lessons learned caused me to just be in awe of how tremendous our God is?
- **Next week, we will look at the praise, exultation, and glory of God in verses 33-36!**
- **OUR GOD IS ABLE!**

HE IS ABLE – Ferguson, Noland; Sung - Maranatha Singers (3:12)

He is able more than able to accomplish what concerns me today. He is able more than able to handle anything that comes my way. He is able more than able to do much more than I could ever dream He is able more than able to make me what He wants me to be.

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CLOSING PRAYER:

Read and meditate over Romans Chapter 11, especially verses 33-36, and Chapter 12!