

## Romans 11

In this chapter, Paul discusses salvation in light of the nation of Israel, the Jews who did believe, the inclusion of the Gentiles, and the final determination of Israel.

### Read Romans 11: 1-12

#### A remnant, chosen by grace

1. By and large, Israel has rejected Christ. But God has not rejected Israel!
2. In v. 5, God reveals a remnant, chosen by grace
  - a) The prophets saw that there never was a time when the whole nation was true to God,
  - b) Yet within the nation, there was always a remnant who would remain faithful. In Paul's day, that remnant was the part of Israel who believed in Christ.
  - c) Thus, "no Church or nation is ever saved en masse." The relationship with God is an individual relationship. A whole nation is not lumped together as a chosen people. Those who have made a decision to follow God are his true remnant - the ones who remain faithful.
  - d) So, the whole nation of Israel has not been rejected, because there is a remnant of those who believed Christ.
3. In v. 7, they were "hardened." It is the word for a callous, a hardening of the skin, which becomes insensitive so you can no longer feel. The mass of the people had become insensitive to God - "no longer able to hear and feel the appeal of God." In v. 8, God has hardened the hearts of those Israelites who would not believe Christ.
4. Notice, vv. 8,9, & 10 are indented - quoting OT verses. Note the wording, "God gave them...". The response of their callousness - a sluggish spirit, unable to see or hear God. Just as a callous can grow on a hand, so it can also grow on the heart.
5. V. 11 - to make Israel jealous - when Israel would see what Christianity has done for the Gentiles, this would make them envious, thus wanting to turn to Christ as well.
6. Paul's vision of a happy ending - the inclusion of the Gentiles will lead to a happy inclusion of the Jews!

### Read Romans 11: 13-24

#### About you Gentiles... Words of Warning and Hope

1. Like wild olive shoots grafted into the olive tree. Thus, don't become proud, but stand in awe, and beware, the Gentiles can also be broken off if they don't believe.
2. And, Israel can also be grafted back in one day!

### Read Romans 11: 25-32

#### All Israel will be saved...

1. Paul was sure that Israel's hardening was neither total or permanent
2. Israel's hardening is until "the full number of Gentiles has come in."
3. Verses 26-27 are indented - he quotes Isaiah 59:20-21 - God's rejection of the Jews will not be permanent. They will receive mercy again.

### Read Romans 11: 33-36

#### Ending with Poetry, praising God

Praising the depths of God's wisdom and judgment. Theology and Doxology go together - the study of the doctrine of God is meant to lead us to praise and adore God for who he is.