

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Romans 11:25-36.**
- B. What have learned from our study of Romans 9-11 thus far?
 - 1. By all means Israel, God's chosen people should be saved.
 - 2. God in His sovereign will, made choices that were in the best interest of bringing forth the Messiah.
 - 3. God has called both Jew and Gentiles to be reconciled in X.
 - 4. Israel has rejected God, therefore God has rejected them.
 - 5. Israel's hope of salvation now rests in their responding with faith in X by the gospel.
 - 6. God's gracious choice is spiritual Israel, the church.
- C. Tonight, I close this series to show how God continues to love and be patient with the Jews, desiring them to be saved by faith in X.

I. GOD'S TIMING.

- A. See **Rom. 11:25.**
For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fulness of the Gentiles has come in;
- B. God has chosen His people to be those who are in X, but He is still gracious to the Jews.
- C. Spiritual Israel is made up of both Jews and Gentiles who have obeyed the gospel.
- D. The promise here is that God will be patient with those who call themselves Jews as long as there are Gentiles being saved.
- E. As Gentiles, we are not to glory in our position. This is a partial hardening; meaning that God is not completely disposing of the Jews, but rather still leaving the door open to anyone who will accept and obey X. If this were a complete hardening (11:7), then God would be finished with Israel and destroy it like other unbelieving nations.
- F. Our sovereign God has mercy to all!

II. GOD'S PROMISE.

- A. See **Rom. 11:26.**
...and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB."
- B. What does it mean that "all Israel shall be saved"? It means:
 - 1. All of the Jews who have responded to the gospel and obeyed X.
See Rom. 1:16; 10:4; 1Cor. 1:18-24; Ac. 1-9.
 - 2. All of the Gentiles who have responded to the gospel and obeyed X. When Gentiles become Xians, and are added to the church, they become a part of spiritual Israel (Gal. 3:29; 6:16; Mt. 19:28; Jas. 1:1).
(Gal 3:29) And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.
(Gal 6:16) And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.
(Mt 19:28) And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
(Jas 1:1) James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad, greetings.
- C. God never really gave up on Israel completely. He did however change covenants. Israel is not physical or fleshly, but now spiritual in nature.
- D. Our sovereign God has mercy to all!

III. GOD'S COVENANT.

A. See **Rom. 11:27-28.**

“AND THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS.” From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of God's choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers;

- B. God is not about to break His covenants with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Their descendants will live on. But they will be members of the church, and not physical Israel.
- C. “From the standpoint of the gospel” these Jews are sinners and desperately need salvation. But God will continue to love them, and be patient with them so that all who possibly can will be able to enter the new covenant of grace found in X.
- D. Our sovereign God has mercy to all!

IV. GOD'S NATURE.

A. See **Rom. 11:29.**

...for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

- B. God does not change (Mal. 3:6).
- C. God's gifts to Israel and God's calling of Israel, cannot be taken back or changed, or God would cease to be true to His own perfect nature. The fact that Israel may never completely enjoy His gifts, or live up to her privileges as an elect nation does not effect this fact one bit.
- D. God will continue to be faithful to Israel, but only through His Son, JC, whom He has appointed as heir of all things (Heb. 1:2). X is the natural and logical consummation of the plight of physical Israel. She, as a nation, will be blessed as they obey Him.
- E. Our sovereign God has mercy to all!

V. GOD'S GRACE.

A. See **Rom. 11:30-32.**

For just as you once were disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy because of their disobedience, so these also now have been disobedient, in order that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now be shown mercy. For God has shut up all in disobedience that He might show mercy to all.

- B. Let me paraphrase these verses; “Because of the unbelief of the Jews, you Gentiles were saved. Now, may it be that through your salvation Israel will come to know Christ.”
- C. Israel's hardness is only “in part” (11:25), which means that individual Jews can be saved. God has included “all in unbelief”--Jews and Gentiles--so that *all* might have the opportunity to be saved by grace.
- D. God chose the Jews so that the Gentiles could be saved. God's promise to Abraham was that “in you all families of the earth be blessed.” The tragedy was that Jesus came unto His own people and they rejected Him (Jn. 1:11), and so the gospel went to the Gentiles.
- E. Our sovereign God has mercy to all!

VI. GOD'S WISDOM.

A. See **Rom. 11:33-36.**

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR? Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

- B. Only a God as wise as our God could take the fall of Israel and turn it into salvation for the world!
- C. His plans will not be aborted nor will His purposes lack fulfillment--HE IS SOVEREIGN!
- D. Are we to conclude that God does NOT know what He is doing, and that the nation of Israel completely ruined His plans? Of course not! GOD IS SOVEREIGN!
- E. God is too wise to make plans that will not be fulfilled. Israel did not allow Him to rule, so He overruled! GOD IS SOVEREIGN!

F. Our sovereign God has mercy to all!

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. We serve and worship a sovereign God. He has made many choices that fulfill His plan in saving man. We must believe in, and obey His will.
- B. God's sovereign choice is that we believe in, obey, and be conformed into the likeness of His Son.
- C. Have you obeyed God's sovereign choice?
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.