

**All Citizens Christian Church Calgary**

**Bible Study:** Tuesday, August 26th, 2025. **Topic: THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS 11**

**ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED**

Chapters 9-11 of the epistle to the Romans dealt exhaustively on the relationship between God, the Jews and the Gentiles. The focus of these chapters was the fact the Jews have rejected the grace of God preferring to dwell on the law of Moses. In doing this they rejected the work of grace which Jesus offered on the cross. The Gentiles who appreciated the work of Grace were the grafted into the family of God. The best way to appreciate this is to remember that in the time of Jesus, all the people who worshipped Him were Jews. The first time the Gospel was appreciated amongst the Gentiles was during the conversion of Cornelius. At the time this epistle was written the church now had sufficient Gentiles while many of the Jews still did not accept Jesus.

Chapter 11 therefore was written in such a way to remind all that God has not given up on the Jews just like He will not give up on the world according to **Joel 2:13b** For He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. Some have concluded that the church is the new Israel and that all the promises of God to Israel now pertains to the church. Is that really true? Has God caste away His people?

The Apostle wanted everyone to know that God had a purpose for hardening the Jews as His hardening of the Jews against the gospel, gave the Gentiles the opportunity to come to the faith. He further said that Israel will be saved. The nation may have been punished for their rejection of God, but that a remnant of Israel would be saved.

Modern world History will prove the Apostle right because up till 1948, there was no nation called Israel and even the Jewish language was getting extinct and antiquated. However, today, that nation exist and the Jewish language is being spoken. This is a demonstration that a remnant of Israel will be saved.

From Chapter 12 of Romans there is a shift of focus. If 9-11 appeared boring, Chapters 12 to 16 will not be the same.

Today’s study is broken into three portions, and we would dwell on each portions one at a time.

**Part 1: God Has Not Rejected Israel Romans 11:1-10**

Paul begins by answering the question he poses: "I ask then: Did God reject his people?" He uses his own life as proof that God has not, as he is an Israelite himself. He also points to the biblical example of Elijah, where God revealed that he had preserved a faithful **remnant** of 7,000 people who had not bowed to Baal. This illustrates that, even when the majority of Israel was disobedient, God always maintained a faithful group. This concept of a remnant chosen by grace applies to Paul's time as well.

**Questions:**

1. How does Paul's use of himself and the story of Elijah demonstrate that God has not completely rejected Israel? Paul is a Jew and in Elijah’s time in spite of the apostacy, there were witnesses. **1 Kings 19:18**
2. What does the concept of a "remnant" reveal about God's faithfulness and His method of working with people throughout history? **Acts 14:17**
3. How do you identify the remnant of God in our days? **I Tim 4:1-3**
4. Why do you think God allows some people to be "hardened" or blinded to the truth, as mentioned in this section? What is the purpose of this? Surrendering to God is what gave Job victory over the devil. We must let God have His way in His dealings with us. **Prov 3:5-6, Psalm 37:5**

**Part 2: The Olive Tree: The Gentiles are Grafted In: Romans 11:11-24**

Paul explains that Israel's temporary "stumbling" or partial hardening was not for their permanent destruction. Instead, it was a providential event that allowed salvation to extend to the Gentiles. This is a deliberate strategy by God to make Israel jealous and eventually win them back. Paul uses the metaphor of a **cultivated olive tree** to illustrate this. The **root** of the tree represents the patriarchs of Israel (Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob) and the divine promises made to them. The **natural branches** are the Jewish people, and the **wild olive shoots** are the Gentiles. Some of the natural branches were broken off due to unbelief, and the wild shoots were grafted into the tree to partake in its "rich root."

Paul issues a strong warning to the Gentile believers not to become arrogant or boastful about their new position, reminding them that they do not support the root, but the root supports them. If God did not spare the natural branches for their unbelief, he will not spare the grafted-in branches if they become arrogant and stop believing.

**Questions:**

1. What is the significance of Paul's analogy of the olive tree? What do the root, natural branches, and wild shoots represent? **John 15:1-2**
2. Why does Paul warn the Gentile believers against arrogance? How can a Christian today fall into this same trap? **I Cor 10:12, Rom 11:20**. **Eph 2:12-13**
3. Based on verses 21-22, what is the balance between God's "kindness" and his "severity"? How does this apply to both Jews and Gentiles? **II Peter 3:9**

**Part 3: The Mystery of Israel's Restoration: Romans 11:25-36**

Paul reveals a "mystery" to the believers: the partial hardening of Israel will continue "until the full number of the Gentiles has come in." After this, "all Israel will be saved." This doesn't necessarily mean every single person but refers to the nation as a whole eventually being restored to a right relationship with God. God's ultimate purpose is to show mercy to everyone—both Jews and Gentiles. Paul concludes this section with a powerful doxology, praising the incomprehensible wisdom and knowledge of God's plans.

**Questions:**

1. What is the "mystery" Paul reveals in this section, and why do you think he emphasizes that believers shouldn't be "arrogant" about it? **V 25**
2. Are people still blind to the gospel today? **II Cor 13:14-15, Luke 19: 41-42**
3. When the Bible says Israel will be saved do you think he means the whole of Israel will be saved? **Rom 10:13**, **Isaiah 59:20**
4. Analyse and discuss the irrevocability of the gifts and the callings of God" **(v. 29)?** An example was Samson.
5. How does reflecting on God's profound wisdom and mercy humble us and change our perspective on His work in the world? verses 33-36.