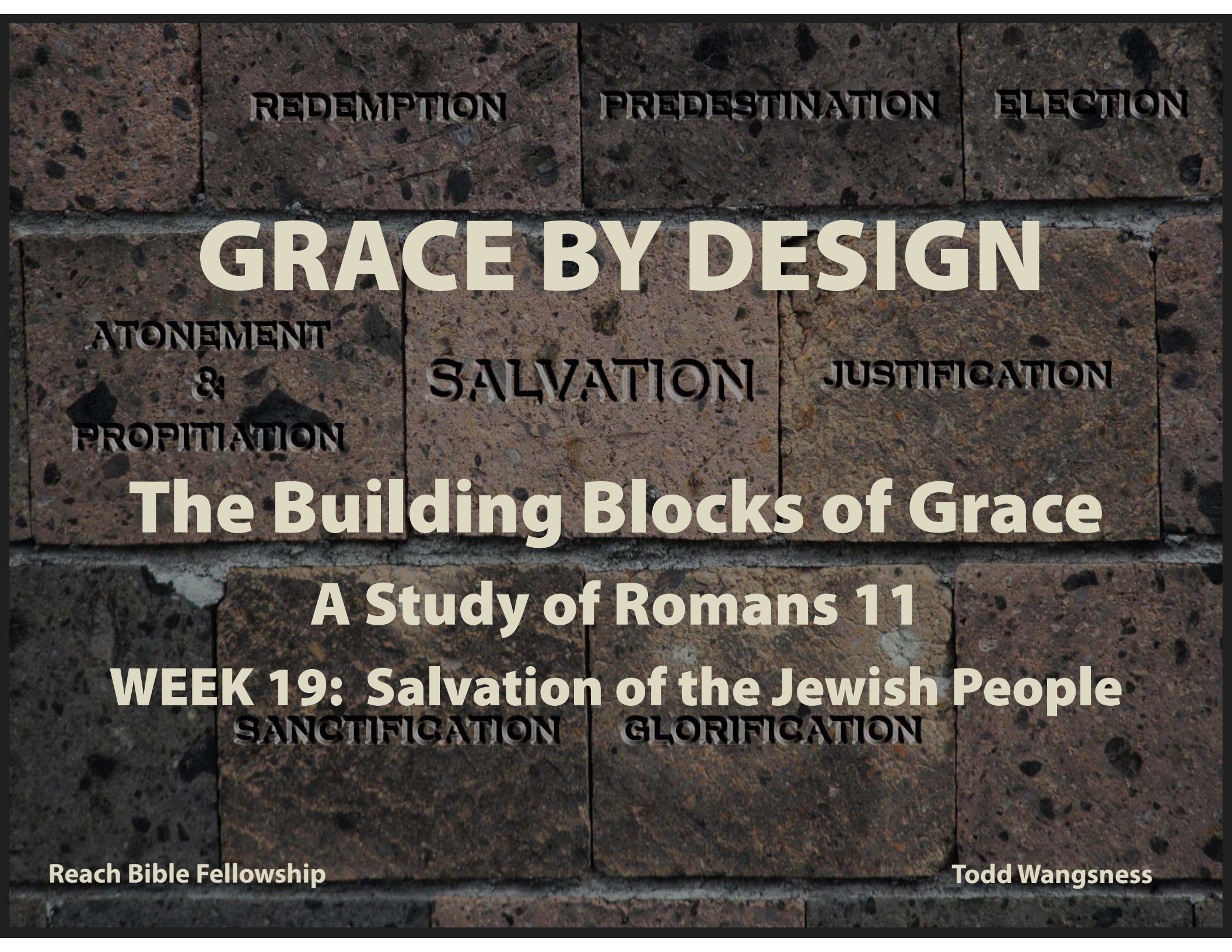


GRACE BY DESIGN

The Building Blocks of Grace

A Study of Romans 11

WEEK 19: Salvation of the Jewish People

Reach Bible Fellowship

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Grace By Design: Study Outline

Week 1:	Romans	Overview of Grace and Salvation
Week 2:	Rom 1:1 – 1:17	Introduction to Romans
Week 3:	Rom 1:18 – 2:16	Justification – Ignorance is not an Excuse
Week 4:	Rom 2:17 – 3:20	Justification – Knowledge isn't Good Enough
Week 5:	Rom. 3:21 – 3:24	Justification – Righteousness of God Revealed 1
Week 6:	Rom. 3:25 – 3:31	Justification – Righteousness of God Revealed 2
Week 7:	Rom. 4:1 – 4:25	Justification – Faith vs the Law
Week 8:	Rom. 5:1 – 5:11	Sanctification – Peace with God 1
Week 9:	Rom. 5:12 – 5:21	Sanctification – Peace with God 2
Week 10:	Rom. 6:1 – 6:14	Sanctification – The Christian's Struggle with Sin 1
Week 11:	Rom. 6:15 – 6:23	Sanctification – The Christian's Struggle with Sin 2
Week 12:	Rom. 7:1 – 7:25	Sanctification – The Law Can't Save (But the Spirit Can!)
Week 13:	Rom. 8:1 – 8:17	Sanctification – Life in the Spirit
Week 14:	Rom. 8:18 – 8:30	Glorification – From Suffering to Glory
Week 15:	Rom. 8:31 – 8:39	Glorification – God's Everlasting Love
Week 16:	Rom. 9:1 – 9:33	Israel's Rejection and God's Purpose
Week 17:	Rom. 10:1 – 10:13	Israel and the Mystery of the Church 1
Week 18:	Rom. 10:14 – 10:21	Israel and the Mystery of the Church 2
Week 19:	Rom. 11:1 – 11:36	The Salvation of the Jewish people
Week 20:	Rom. 12:1 – 12:2	Living the Transformed Life
Week 21:	Rom. 12:3– 12:8	Gifts of the Spirit
Week 22:	Rom. 12:9– 12:21	The Christian Walk
Week 23:	Rom. 13:1 – 13:14	Love Fulfills the Law
Week 24:	Rom. 14:1 – 14:21	Not Judging the Weak in Faith
Week 25:	Rom. 15:1 – 15:25	Bearing One Another's Burdens
Week 26:	Rom. 16:1 – 16:25	Conclusion and closing remarks

Grace By Design: Salvation of the Jewish People

Notable quote on Chapter 11

"In Romans 11, we behold the marvelous tapestry of God's grace, wherein He has not cast away His people Israel, but has, for a season, allowed their blindness that salvation might come to the Gentiles. Oh, what depths of wisdom are here!

The Apostle Paul, with holy jealousy, desires that his kinsmen according to the flesh might be saved, and he reveals to us that their stumbling is not unto a final fall, but that, through the mercy shown to us who were afar off, they too shall obtain mercy.

Let us never forget that God's promises to Abraham's seed stand firm, and His covenant endures forever, so that we, being grafted into the root, should walk humbly and give glory to Him who has made one people of both Jew and Gentile."

- **Charles Spurgeon**

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Chapter 11 Overview

- In chapters 9-10, Paul presented Israel's rejection of the Messiahship of Yeshua from two standpoints
  - Standpoint of divine sovereignty (Rom 9)
  - Standpoint of human responsibility (Rom 10)
- He argues that God has every right to deal severely with Israel

- But, Paul has yet to answer the original question … "Can God's promises to the Church be trusted if His promises to Israel remain unfulfilled?"

- In chapter 11, Paul addresses this question and shows that God working to bring about salvation of mankind in general, and of Israel in particular
- God has not forgotten His people and His promises to them

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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."

- **Paul asks a probing question as an introduction**
  - ***"Has God cast away His people?"***
  - **Scholars that embrace 'Replacement Theology' will say, "Yes, He has!"**
  - **Paul answers the question and says a resounding No!" God forbid!**

11:2-4 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, 3 "LORD, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life"? 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 Kings 19:10-14)

- **Paul points out that when Elijah thought he was the only one left, God told him, *"I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."***

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11:5-6 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. 6 Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

- *"Even so then …"*
  - **The Hebrew draws a comparison**
- **"***there is a remnant"*
  - **Just as there was a remnant in Elijah's time – there will also be a remnant of Israel**
  - **The Greek states this even more strongly**
    - **What was true then, is also true now!**
- *"according to the election of grace"*
  - **Not on the basis of the Mosaic Law, but on the basis of grace!**

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11:7-8 *What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. 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." (Deu 29:4; Isa 29:10)*

11:9-10 *And David says: "Let their table become a snare and a trap, A stumbling block and a recompense to them. 10 Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see, and bow down their back always." (Psa 69:22-23)*

- *"Israel has not obtained …"*
  - **Paul is again emphasizing what we studied in Chapters 9-10**
  - **Israel as a whole thought they could obtain righteousness through their works**
  - **But there is a remnant that understands that righteousness is only available through grace**
  - **The ones that refused grace were "hardened". They are the non-remnant.**
  - **He quotes sections from the Law (Deuteronomy), the Prophets (Isaiah) and the Writings (Psalms) to prove his point**

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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.

- *"Certainly not!"*
  - **Paul uses the strongest possible Greek negation, "God forbid!" or "May it never be!"**
  - **Israel's stumbling is temporary, not an irrevocable fall**
  - ***Isa 49:6 Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.' "***
  - **God planned for Israel to stumble for the express purpose of Gentile salvation**
- *"provoke them to jealousy"*
  - **Greek: '*parazēloō*'; '*para*' means to come alongside; '*zēloō*' means to boil over with desire, root of the English word 'zeal'**
  - **The intent of this verse is to show that the Gentiles are to come alongside the unbelieving Jews and be witnesses of the Messiah**
  - **To cause the Jews to 'burn with jealousy' over what the Gentile believers have in Christ**
  - **This will result in many unbelieving Jews to come to saving faith in Jesus**

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

- *"how much more their fullness!"*
  - **The very unbelief of Israel is part of God's program to bring them to repentance and salvation**
  - **In the future, Israel – as a whole – will be saved**

11:13-14 For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them.

- *"For I speak to you Gentiles"*
  - **Paul now changes the addressee to speak directly to the Gentiles**
  - **He wanted the Gentiles to know that he had been appointed as the apostle to the Gentiles and that he took glory in this position and calling**
  - **The more Gentiles he led to salvation, the more the Jews would be provoked to jealousy!**

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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 argues from the standpoint of the 'lesser to the greater'**
  - **If the rejection of Israel results in the reconciliation of the Gentile world, then the acceptance of Israel results in 'life from the dead'**
- **By the fall of the Jews, the Gentile world received the gospel**
- **When the nation of Israel is saved, the world will be blessed even more**
- **With Israel's national salvation, the millennial blessings of the Messianic kingdom will be established**
- **The end result is the Millennial Age – with the incredible blessings prophesied from ages past finally being realized!**

Grace By Design: Salvation of the Jewish People

11:16-18 For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. 17 And if some 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, 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.

- **The connecting 'if' in verse 16 provides the reason for believing in a future restoration of the nation of Israel**
- **The 'firstfruit' refers to the patriarchs and the Abrahamic Covenant**
  - **They are holy because they were separated and consecrated by God for a divine purpose**
- **The 'lump' and 'branches' refer to the nation of Israel**
  - **Paul builds upon the concept of holiness in the first part of the dough being passed on to the whole lump**
    - ***Gal 5:9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.***
  - **Paul explains that the sanctification of the 'root' will spread to the whole nation of Israel**
- **He admonishes the Gentiles to not consider themselves superior to the broken branches**
  - **They do not support the root, the root supports them**
  - **The root is the covenant God made with Abraham**
  - **The root is of and from the Hebrews**

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11:19-22 You will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in." 20 Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear. 21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. 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 'natural' branches were broken off due to unbelief, while the wild branches were grafted in through faith**
  - **The basis of the Gentile blessing is faith, not merit**
- **In order for the Gentiles to remain in the place of blessing, we must continue IN FAITH!**
  - **Israel's failure should be a lesson to us**
  - **The Jews were in a place of blessing as a nation, but were broken off because of unbelief**
  - **Now the Gentiles are in a place of blessing**
  - **If we fail to remain in belief, we also will be removed from the blessing**
- **Gentiles are not blessed because we're better … we're blessed as we believe through faith!**

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11:23-24 And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. 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?

- **Paul draws a logical conclusion**
  - **If the unnatural branches survive and thrive when grafted into the olive tree, how much more then will the natural branches flourish when they are grafted back in?**
  - **Paul again presents the 'lesser to the greater' argument to make his point**

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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 in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

- **Paul's definition of a 'mystery'**
  - *Eph 3:3-6, 9 "how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: 6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel … 9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ"*
- **What is the 'mystery' to which Paul is referencing?**
  - *Col 1:26-27 "The mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. 27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*
- *"until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in"*
  - **Fullness: Greek *plērōma* – complete number or sum total**

Grace By Design: Salvation of the Jewish People

11:26-27 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; 27 For this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins." (Isaiah 59:20-21)

- **The Redeemer referenced in Isaiah 59 is the Messiah**
- **He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob**

11:28 Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.

- **The "They" Paul is referencing is the nation of Israel**
- **The "your" are the Gentiles**
- **The alienation of Israel in spite of the covenant promises of God is God's way of bringing Gentiles to Himself**
- **Israel are the 'elect' for God's own sake and for the sake of the patriarchs**

Grace By Design: Salvation of the Jewish People

11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

- **The nature of God's promises are unconditional and unchanging**
- **God is a Covenant God … He cannot break His covenants**
  - *Jam 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*
  - *Heb 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*
  - *Tit 1:2 … in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began*
- **Although Israel by and large is ignorant of God, they will be recipients of His Grace at the appointed time in the future**
- **We – the Gentiles – are also beneficiaries of God's unchanging nature!**
  - *Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.*
  - **Thank God He "abundantly" pardons us!**
  - **The Hebrew means "beyond any reasonable expectation"!**

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11:30-32 For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, 31 even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. 32 For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.

- **We – as Gentiles – were estranged from God.**
  - **But, through Israel's disobedience, God has brought us near to Him!**
- **Now, even though Israel has been disobedient, they also will be shown mercy**
- **Verse 32 combines Israel and Gentiles into "all"**
  - **Even though ALL people have been disobedient, God will extend grace to ALL people in His loving mercy!**
  - **With the proviso that we "Believe"**

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11:33 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!

11:34-35 "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?" (Isa 40:13; Jer 23:18) 35 "Or who has first given to Him and it shall be repaid to him?" (Job 41:11)

11:36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

- **Paul closes this section with an amazing doxology!**
  - **He praises God's unfathomable wisdom and knowledge**
  - *Isa 55:8-9 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.*

Grace By Design: Salvation of the Jewish People

Questions to ponder:

- **:26 "All Israel will be saved…"**
  - **What does this mean? Does this mean that every Jew will receive salvation, irrespective of whether they have accepted Jesus as their Savior or not?**
- **:28 "Concerning the gospel, they are enemies …"**
  - **Does this mean that we should now regard Jews as enemies of the Gospel?**
  - **How should we approach the Jews today?**
  - **Adherents of Replacement Theology (i.e., the Church has 'replaced' Israel) seem to have an innate disdain for the nation of Israel. Many reformers (Calvin, Luther, etc.) were rabidly antisemitic.**
    - **How should we as evangelical Christians deal with people that embrace Replacement Theology?**
- **The Jews – by and large – despise the symbol of the Cross as it has resulted in MUCH persecution of the Jewish people over the millennia.**
  - **Will the Jews need to have a change of heart with respect to their knee-jerk reaction to the Cross?**
  - **How may this come about?**
- **:29 "The gifts and calling of God are irrevocable"**
  - **Does this fact drive you to your knees in worship of God and His Faithfulness?**