

God's Relationship with Israel"

Romans 9-11

Part 22

Introduction: Three weeks ago, we were in chapter 11 of our study of Romans and it was in this chapter that we are looking at God's relationship with Israel in the future.

Notice Romans 11:1

Paul had asked and answered the question, "Had God cast His people away?" The answer to that was, "Absolutely NOT!" Paul was an Israelite and he was not cast away and neither were the others.

Notice Romans 11:5-7

In Paul's day and in our day, there is a remnant of Jews who were saved according to the election of grace. This means they were saved and now they were members of the body of Jesus Christ. Most of Israel has not obtained that which they are striving for.

Romans 10:2-3

² *For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.*

³ *For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.*

Israel was striving to establish their own righteousness by keeping the Law, but they had failed. Those who had turned to Jesus Christ however had attained the righteousness of God and they were saved. Those who rejected Jesus Christ were blinded. This was a judicial blindness. The Israel of Paul's day had so much evidence before them. They watched as Jesus performed the miracles, they listened to His teachings, they heard of His miraculous conception, and they had heard the words of John the Baptist as he testified of Jesus Christ. Yet with all of this evidence they rejected Jesus and they condemned Him to death. Then after His death they had evidence of His resurrection. This is what brought the blindness upon them and there was even more that resulted from their rejection.

Notice Romans 11:8

The word "slumber here in verse 8 is very important. It means "stupor" and so the unbelieving Jews have been given a spirit of stupor which means "to be dull and insensitive". The Jews who rejected the Lord have become spiritually desensitized. Morris calls this an "attitude of deadness toward spiritual things".

This thought is alarming! There are people today who have been exposed to the Truth of the Bible and they have heard the Gospel and they too have come under a judicial hardening and many have an "attitude of deadness toward spiritual things". Let me show you how devastating this can become.

Revelation 9:20-21

²⁰ And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

²¹ Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

These are people under the judgments of the Tribulation. They too will be exposed to the Truth through the preaching of the two witnesses, the 144,000 Jewish missionaries, and the angel which proclaims the Gospel. They will reject the offer of salvation through Jesus Christ and they will come under judicial hardening and spiritual deadness. I remind you again of the words of McClain:

If a man says, "I will not," there may come a time when he will say, "I cannot".

This now brings us to where we are in our study tonight.

"God's Relationship with Israel in the Future"

Part 3

Notice Romans 11:9-10

Here Paul quotes from Psalm 69. In verse 9 David speaks of their "table". This too has a warning for unbelievers. Spiritual hardening is depicted most clearly when we look at the nation of Israel. Hearts are hardened most quickly when man trusts in his place of special privilege. Israel trusted in their place of special privilege which was, they were God's chosen people. They had so many privileges which came with their position, but they still needed salvation. The majority however refused to see themselves as sinners who were unable to save themselves. Therefore, they feasted upon the privileges at their "TABLE" which they had as the elect. David says, the table of privileges would become a snare, a trap, a stumbling block and a recompense to them. Let me show you a picture of these verses in action.

John 13:21-30

²¹ When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

²² Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake.

²³ Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.

²⁴ Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake.

²⁵ He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?

²⁶ Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.

²⁷ And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

²⁸ Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him.

²⁹ For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor.

³⁰ He then having received the sop went immediately out: **and it was night.**

Here in this passage Judas represents the majority of the nation of Israel. They sat at the table of privilege and learned of God. They enjoyed the rich blessings which He bestowed upon them, but like Judas, they rejected His Son and just as Judas went out into the night, so those who are unsaved are lost in spiritual darkness.

Application:

There are many today who sit at the table of privilege and are not saved. They sit in churches where the Bible is taught, and they hear of the love and the longsuffering of God. They are mixed in with true believers and they enjoy the blessings of God upon their families and upon the church family. They sit at the table of privilege, but they have never been saved. So, as time goes on their hearts grow more and more calloused. They believe the blessings of God are an acknowledgement of God's approval upon their lives.

Romans 2:4-6

⁴ Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; **not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?**

⁵ *But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;*

⁶ *Who will render to every man according to his deeds:*

They do not know they are treasuring up wrath for the day of judgment. If they die in their sins, they will be held to a great degree of accountability than many others because they sat at the table of privilege.

Luke 12:46-48

⁴⁶ *The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.*

⁴⁷ *And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.*

⁴⁸ *But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.*

Now Paul is going to anticipate a negative response to what he has taught, and that response would be that Israel then has no hope because of their rejection.

Notice Romans 11:11a

The word "stumble" means "to trip" the word "fall" means "to fall into ruin". Israel stumbled over Jesus Christ at His first coming. But they have not fallen into destruction. They rejected Jesus Christ in His first coming.

John 1:10-11

¹⁰ *He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.*

¹¹ *He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*

But when Jesus returns at the end of the Tribulation, Israel will accept her Messiah.

Matthew 23:37-39

³⁷ *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

³⁸ *Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.*

³⁹ For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

It will be then that God will pour out His Spirit upon the believing remnant.

Zechariah 12:10

¹⁰ And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

Zechariah 13:8-9

⁸ And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.

⁹ And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Notice Romans 11:11b

This verse contains a great deal of comfort when we understand what is being said here.

The nation of Israel rejected Jesus Christ, so God then turned to the Gentiles and offered salvation to them. Today God is gathering a people from the Gentiles for His name.

Acts 15:14

¹⁴ Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

We can see this also in John's words again.

John 1:10-12

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

¹¹ He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

God has used the rejection of Israel to gather a bride for His Son and the salvation of the Gentiles is used by God to provoke Israel to jealousy. God had a purpose in Israel rejecting their Messiah and that was to bring the Gentiles to salvation and His purpose for Israel is

also accomplished through the salvation of the Gentiles for our salvation is used to bring Israel back to God. Now let me show you the encouragement in all of this.

Satan moved Israel to reject their Messiah and thus condemn Him to death. God however had planned for Jesus to die so that the salvation would be available to all. Satan was hoping to destroy Israel so that Jesus would not set up His Kingdom and when they rejected Him God turned to the Gentiles. The salvation of the Gentiles is then used to provoke Israel to jealousy and bring them back to God. God countered every move that Satan made, and He did so with a blessing. The point for us to see is that NO ONE can outmaneuver God.

Application/conclusion:

All of this was part of the plan of God. Today God has a plan for you and me also and we can be sure that there is not one person who can stop His plan. Satan can give his best shot and we can be sure that God will use it for our good and His glory.

Romans 8:35-39

³⁵ *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*

³⁶ *As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.*

³⁷ *Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.*

³⁸ *For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,*

³⁹ *Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*