

Series on Romans for Airdrie Baptist Church, Autumn 2021

Session 8. Romans 11

Israel's Hope

Having dwelt quite heavily on the sovereign choices of God in election, Paul continues his discussion of the way God deals with both Jews and Gentiles. But he is writing from Corinth, a divided and factious congregation. Sensing that there would be questions in the minds of his listeners that might lead to divisions in the community of faith in Rome, Paul is eager to diffuse any thoughts of “one-upmanship.” Does God’s sovereign ability to choose also give Him the sovereign right to break His promises?

Israel has a foundational place in God’s plan, and her place abides in the faithful remnant that clearly perceives His plan in Christ. The Gentiles have no place to boast over Israel’s apparent loss. They only enjoy their position because of Israel’s history. Rather the Gentiles factor into God’s plan in such a way as to evoke jealousy in Israel, prompting the Chosen People to turn and once again choose their God.

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| A. | Israel is Not Abandoned – a Remnant Prevails | 11:1-10 |
| 1. | God has always reserved a faithful people: 2 examples | 11:1-4 |
| 2. | So presently, some Jews receive the grace of salvation | 11:5-7 |
| 3. | The rest are counted as hardened and dull | 11:8-10 |
| B. | The Gentiles Serve to Make Israel Jealous for Her Birthright | 11:11-24 |
| 1. | Paul would seek the salvation of the Jews | 11:11-12 |
| 2. | Paul is, however, Apostle to the Gentiles | 11:13-16 |
| 3. | The Gentiles are as a shoot grafted onto the olive tree | 11:17-18 |
| 4. | The Gentiles have no boast over the Jews | 11:19-24 |
| C. | The Dynamics of God’s Elective Plan Are Mysterious! | 11:25-36 |
| 1. | Israel is only set aside, not abandoned, God’s promise still holds | 11:25-29 |
| 2. | Mercy came to the Gentiles through Israel, and will return to Israel through the Gentiles | 11:30-32 |
| 3. | Amazing, isn’t it! | 11:33-36 |