

ISRAEL'S REJECTION IS TEMPORARY – PART 2

--ROMANS 11:1-10—

INTRODUCTION:

We began Romans 11 last week where Paul wants us to understand that Israel as a nation has a future in God's eternal plan of redemption. God has just temporarily and partially set her aside at this time as a nation and is working in individual hearts of both Jews and Gentiles to bring them to Himself. The promises made to Israel will be fulfilled by God in the future.

Paul began to build his case last week by first using himself as an example of a Jew who God had saved by His grace. Then he showed us that God has always preserved for Himself a remnant of believing Jews using an incident in the life of Elijah as his example. Paul then made clear that God has not forgotten or rejected the Jewish people who He foreknew and graciously chose to be His remnant until He returns. This morning we will learn that this is by grace alone that we are elected into God's family and then look at the evidence of revelation in the Old Testament of those who have hardened themselves to God's grace and are then judicially hardened by God.

I. A REMNANT CHOSEN BY GRACE (Romans 11:5-7a)

- a. Last week we closed by talking about the godly _____ of Jews that God has preserved throughout the history of the nation of Israel. (2 Timothy 1:8-9)
- b. Paul throughout the book of Romans that we have looked at so far has contrasted righteousness by _____ with righteousness by _____. (Ephesians 2:8-10)
- c. Paul then sums up this section on this godly remnant that God has graciously _____ and preserved for Himself. (Romans 10:2-3)
- d. Paul adds that those Jews (here individuals) that were chosen graciously and sovereignly by God _____ it. (Romans 8:29-30)

II. A JUDICIAL HARDENING (Romans 11:7b-10)

- a. Paul writes, "*but those who were chosen obtained it, and the rest were _____*..." (Romans 11:7b, NASB95) (Deuteronomy 29:4; Isaiah 29:10)
- b. Remember that God judicially _____ Pharaoh's heart so that He might demonstrate His power in Pharaoh and so that His great name might be proclaimed through all the earth. (Exodus 4-12)
- c. Paul goes on with another _____ from the Old Testament, a further revelation from God of His judicial hardening of hearts of those who had already hardened their hearts to His offer of grace. (Psalm 69:22-23)
- d. Paul through the words of David begins by speaking of the _____ of those who were responsible for the Lord's suffering and grief.
- e. Paul is speaking to the nation of Israel here, but this same thing happens in our world all the time, the very thing that we _____ in to save us is the very thing that brings our destruction.
- f. Paul continues to quote from David concerning those who have hardened their hearts to God's grace, as they are hardened "*...their eyes are darkened to _____ not,*" (Romans 11:10a, NASB95)
- g. Paul ends David's quote with, "*...and bend their _____ forever.*" (Romans 11:10b, NASB95)

CONCLUSION:

As we will learn in the weeks to come, God's hardening is not forever, but for a temporary time, a time in which He is working in the hearts of the individuals He has graciously and sovereignly chosen to be His own, His children who He has predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son. If you have put your faith in Jesus Christ, then you are righteous in Him and you have been saved from God's coming wrath and judgment against sin. Rejoice that God chose you in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before Him.