

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

Have you grown too accustomed to God's mercy?

Romans 9-11

Israel's Unbelief and the Promise of God

Paul's Aim in Rom. 9-11

- To show that, although most of Israel is unbelieving, the word of God has not failed (9:6)

1st Reason: *"they are not all Israel who are from Israel"*

- children of God are determined by the word of promise through His calling, not according to flesh or works
- the granting of mercy is always accompanied by hardening (judgment), yet even this serves His greater saving purpose

Paul's Answer in Rom. 9-11

- Presently the nation of Israel, with the exception of a remnant, is hardened in fulfillment of God's word; yet this hardening serves God's greater saving purpose, first for the Gentiles, and then for Israel

...vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,

²⁴ *even* us, whom He also called, not from among Jews only, but also from among Gentiles. ²⁵ As He says also in Hosea, "I WILL CALL THOSE WHO WERE NOT MY PEOPLE, 'MY PEOPLE,' AND HER WHO WAS NOT BELOVED, 'BELOVED.'" ²⁶ "AND IT SHALL BE THAT IN THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS SAID TO THEM, 'YOU ARE NOT MY PEOPLE,' THERE THEY SHALL BE CALLED SONS OF THE LIVING GOD."

²⁷ Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, "THOUGH THE NUMBER OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL BE LIKE THE SAND OF THE SEA, IT IS THE REMNANT THAT WILL BE SAVED; ²⁸ FOR THE LORD WILL EXECUTE HIS WORD ON THE EARTH, THOROUGHLY AND QUICKLY."

²⁹ And just as Isaiah foretold,
 “UNLESS THE LORD OF SABAOOTH HAD LEFT TO US A
 SEED, WE WOULD HAVE BECOME LIKE SODOM, AND
 WOULD HAVE RESEMBLED GOMORRAH.”

(Romans 9:24-29)

God’s Present Calling

- “Call” – God’s effective summons by which people are brought into a saving relationship with Him

God’s Present Calling

1. Multitude of Gentiles

- God’s mercy makes idolatrous rebels into His beloved children (Hosea 1:10; 2:23)
- Gentiles are full-members of the people of God, His adopted sons

¹¹ Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh...¹² you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ...¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God’s household,

(Eph. 2:11-13, 19)

⁴ By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit, ⁶ to be *specific*, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel...⁸ To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,

(Eph. 3:4-6, 8)

God’s Present Calling

2. Remnant of Jews

- the hour of judgment has come upon Israel – it has been reduced to a remnant by the execution of God’s word on the earth (Isaiah 10:22-23)
- this remnant serves as a sign of hope in the midst of judgment (Isaiah 1:9 – “seed”)