

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

²⁵ For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

²⁶ and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written,

“THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION,
HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB.”

²⁷ “THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM,
WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS.”

²⁸ From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

³⁰ For just as you once were disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy because of their disobedience,

³¹ so these also now have been disobedient, that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now be shown mercy.

³² For God has shut up all in disobedience so that He may show mercy to all.

(Romans 11:25-32)

This Mystery...

➤ something hidden from God's people in the past but now revealed in the gospel

- concerns the sequence of salvation-history that culminates in Israel's salvation
- Paul wants us (Gentiles) to know it in order to keep us from pride and a sense of superiority

This Mystery...

1. “Partial Hardening” of Israel

- the judicial act of God that renders Israel spiritually insensitive and incapable of responding to God
- “in part” – not total; there remains a remnant as a sign of hope of restoration
- temporary – this partial hardening is only “until” the fullness of the Gentiles comes in

This Mystery...

2. “The fullness of the Gentiles”

- the full or complete number of Gentiles entering the kingdom of God (salvation)
- implies that Israel's hardening will be removed when this “fullness” has been completed

This Mystery...

3. "All Israel Will Be Saved"

What does "all Israel" mean?

➤ *Three views*

1. The true, "spiritual" Israel consisting of both Jews and Gentiles throughout history
2. The total number of elect Israelites throughout history (the real Israel; the remnant; c.f. 9:6)
3. The nation of Israel as a whole (corporate entity); the mass of Israel in contrast to the remnant

This Mystery...

3. "All Israel Will Be Saved"

- the future salvation of the nation of Israel as a whole (their "fullness"/"acceptance")
- this salvation of Israel will be accomplished by Christ in connection with His coming – He will remove their ungodliness

This Mystery...

- knowledge of this mystery is meant to promote our humility and strengthen our trust in God's undeserved, saving mercy