



# **ROMANS**

The Gospel of God

## **The Gospel Remnant!**

**Romans 11:1-10**

Message #22 of 33 – S1150

**Sermon given on May 11, 2025**



**Sunday Morning Service**

**Pastor Rick Lancaster**

# **The Gospel Remnant!**

***Romans 11:1-10***

## **Opening Comments**

- Open your Bibles to **Romans 11**
- Today, we continue the series through the letter to the Romans – **The Gospel of God!**
- Let's open this time in our service with a word of prayer. - **Pray**

## **Teaching**

- **The Gospel Remnant!**
- Antisemitism is on the rise again. It never completely goes away.
- As Christ-followers, we must always remember that Christ was a Jew.
- He was sent from heaven to be the Messiah to the Jewish people.
- It was God's plan to save the Jews first, and then the Gentiles.
- As Christ-followers, we cannot be anti-Jew.
- Our Savior is a Jew, and the Jews are still God's Chosen People.
- As a church, CCFV stands with Israel.
- That doesn't mean we agree with everything they do as a nation.
- For the most part, Jews are separated from God because of their rejection of the Messiah, Christ Jesus.
- When we say that we stand with Israel there are four basic truths that we are standing on.
- First – **Israel has a right to exist!**
- God chose Abraham out from humanity to create a separated people.
- They are His Chosen People now and forever.
- Second – **The land of Israel belongs to the people of Israel.**
- We refer to that land as the Promised Land.
- God gave it to the Jews with an everlasting covenant.
- The name Palestine was assigned to the land of Israel by the Romans as an insult to the Jewish people.
- Third – **Israel has a God-given right to defend itself.**
- Anyone who attacks Israel is coming against the apple of God's eye.
- Fourth – **God has a plan to save Israel.**

- Even though Israel is far from God and has rejected the Messiah, God has a plan to restore them back to Himself.
- That is the point Paul starts with in chapter eleven.
- **Romans 11:1a**
- This is a logical question after describing Israel's rejection of the Messiah in chapter ten.
- Paul is going to respond to that question with three thoughts that make up this chapter.
- The first is here in our text for today, verses 1 to 10.
- The first thought is God has not cast away Israel is because some Jews were coming to Christ.
- Paul uses himself as an example of that.
- **Romans 11:1b**
- Paul was as Jewish as one could get. For many in the early church, Paul was as unlikely of a person to be saved as there was.
- Paul said later about himself. **1 Corinthians 15:9**  
**For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.**
- Even after he came to Christ many in the church did not trust that he was sincere.
- Finally, Barnabus brought him into the family of the church. **R. Kent Hughes**  
**"Paul, a hardened, religious man with blood on his hands, came to Christ, so there is hope for anyone."**
- No one is beyond the grace of God.
- **Romans 11:2a**
- 'He foreknew' – God chose the Jews long before He called Abraham to leave his homeland and travel to the land God was planning to give to his descendants.
- God chose them and knew exactly who He was choosing.
- God foreknew everyone who would come to faith.
- He foreknew me and knew I would walk a path that resisted the work of the Holy Spirit until I was forty.
- **Romans 11:2b-3**

- If you have ever tried to share the gospel with someone and they continuously resist or reject the truth, then you have an idea about what Elijah was feeling.
- He was doing what he believed the Lord wanted him to be doing and people were still choosing to do the wrong things.
- Elijah felt like his life was a waste and he was the only one who cared about God.
- **Romans 11:4**
- You might feel alone and the only one who cares about God, but you are not.
- God sovereignly always have some who believe.
- In the days of Noah, it was only Noah.
- The Bible doesn't speak about the faith of the rest of his family before the flood, but even if they did believe that was still only six people.
- We can never know who God might use to reach our lost and wayward loved ones.
- God has people all around us who are seeking the Lord and following the leading of the Holy Spirit that we do not know about.
- Trust God, He loves them more than you do.
- Since the garden of Eden there have always been God-followers.
- Paul explains why in the next verse.

- **Romans 11:5**

- Between the Muslims, Jews, Catholics, and Christians, about half the world's eight billion people say they believe in God.
- If we only count Christ-followers, that number is much smaller.
- The Bible teaches that there is only one way to truly worship God.

**John 14:6**

**"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."**

- You cannot worship God without first putting your faith in Christ Jesus. 1 **John 5:11-12**

**And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup> He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.**

- A large percentage of those who claim to be God-worshippers are not, they do not trust in Christ.

- No Christ = no God = no salvation! It is as simple as that.
- There is always a remnant of true God-worshippers in the world because of election.
- God chooses some to be saved and through the exercise of their free will they believe and are saved.
- How that transpires on a spiritual basis is a mystery.
- **Romans 11:6**
- Paul then returns to a familiar topic. Salvation is by the grace of God.
- That means every part of salvation, even the faith we use to believe comes from God.

• We bring nothing to the transaction except our sin and we do nothing to facilitate the transaction – it is all God. **Ephesians 2:8-9**

**For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.**

- In verse 2, Elijah pleaded with God against those who were resisting God.
- A better response would be to plead for those you want to see God reach.
- Prayer is another mystery of our faith.
- We are commanded to pray and to do it a lot. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.**

- The Bible also teaches that God hears our prayers. **Proverbs 15:29**  
**The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.**
- God is sovereign and He does what He wants, when He wants to and how He wants to.
- Exactly what the role of prayer is in the way God interacts in this world is not clear, but it is important.
- God answered Solomon's prayer as he dedicated the temple he built for God. **1 Kings 9:3**

**And the LORD said to him: "I have heard your prayer and your supplication that you have made before Me; I have consecrated this house which you have built to put My name there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually."**

- God hears and answers prayer. Never stop praying.
- Paul ends this section with the sad reality for the Jews who have rejected the Messiah promised and then sent to them.

- **Romans 11:7-10**

- Israel had been seeking a right relationship with God through a system of religious observances and sacrifices.
- Through the religious observances God wanted them to realize how holy God was and how sinful they were.
- It was also meant to teach them that there was nothing they do to be delivered from the sin dwells in all mankind.
- He wanted them to desperately desire a Savior, a Messiah, a Christ.
- He wanted worship to come out of their heart, not their hands and feet.
- When Christ came, He came to the Jews.
- Because they rejected the promised Messiah, God spiritually blinded them from seeing the truth.
- It is a judgment for their unbelief.
- This is very similar to what God did with Pharaoh in the Exodus.
- Because Pharaoh hardened his heart to the Word of God through Moses, God hardened his heart even more.
- Does that mean God is done with the Jews?
- Does that mean there is no hope for the Jews? No, absolutely not!
- God always maintains a remnant of true Jewish God-worshippers, those who come to Him through Christ. But most are blinded.
- Paul said this about that. **2 Corinthians 3:14-15**

**But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. <sup>15</sup> But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart.**

- Many of the Jews today are far from God, some are even atheists.
- And the ones who are seeking God are doing so in the writings of Moses and the Prophets.

- Jesus talked about that. **John 5:39-40**

**You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. <sup>40</sup> But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.**

- Because of their national rejection of the Messiah, Christ Jesus, there is a spiritual veil over their eyes as they seek God in the Old Testament.
- Their only hope is God the Son in the New Testament. **2 Corinthians 3:16**

**Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.**

- Any Jew can be saved today, if they will simply put their trust in Christ, their Messiah.
- The same truth applies to those who are not Jews.
- They may not be trying to be right with God through religious observances but they are imagining a way that makes them eligible to go to heaven.
- There is only one way, through faith in Christ Jesus.
- And if someone rejects the gospel of Christ Jesus, God will harden their heart and put a veil over their eyes until they humble themselves before Him and receive Christ as their Savior.
- If you have loved ones who are resisting the gospel and doing things that are not right, don't lose hope.
- As long as there is life there is hope.
- God has Christ-followers you may not know about who are being prepared or at work to reach them for Christ.
- You keep doing your part, which is loving them, praying for them, and sharing the truth with them.
- You keep doing those three things until God tells you to stop, which He probably won't do.
- In the meantime, you keep seeking the Lord, growing your faith, and learning to love God more every day.
- Put your trust fully in Him.
- Don't trust in what your eyes can see, trust in God who sees what cannot be seen.
- Don't trust in what you can do, trust in God who does the impossible.
- When you are tempted to lose hope, renew your trust of God.
- We'll close with a very familiar verse. **Proverbs 3:5-6**  
**Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.**
- Let's pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us trust God.
- **Pray! Communion! Last Song!**