



## REJECTED?

### God Has Not Rejected His People Israel • Pt 1

Lesson 24 • Romans 11:1-10

#### Where Are We in Romans 9-11?

The Mystery of God's Majestic Mission of Mercy			
TOPICS	CHAPTER 9	CHAPTER 10	CHAPTER 11
<b>God</b>	His Merciful Majesty	His Missional Message	His Merciful Mystery
<b>Focus</b>	Divine Sovereignty	Human Responsibility	Glorious Solidarity
<b>Israel</b>	Israel's Past Election	Israel's Present Rejection	Israel's Future Salvation
<b>Questions &amp; Objections</b>	<i>Has God's Promises Failed? Is God's Unconditional Election Fair? Why Does God Still Find Fault? Is There Any Reason for Faith?</i>	<i>How Did Pagan Gentiles Receive What Was Promised to Chosen Israel?  How Did Zealous Israel Miss Out?</i>	<i>Is God's Rejection of Israel Total &amp; Final? Is There No Hope for Israel's Hard Heart? Who Can Ever Figure All This Out?</i>
<b>Paul</b>	His Personal Pain over Israel <i>Heavy Burden (9:1-5)</i>	His Passionate Prayer for Israel <i>Heart Belief (10:1)</i>	His Positive Proof to Israel <i>Hope-filled Blessings (11:1)</i>
<b>Key</b>	God's Sovereign Majesty <i>in Election</i>	God's Sending Mission <i>in Proclamation</i>	God's Saving Mercy <i>in Salvation</i>

### Has God REJECTED His Elect People, Israel?

1. Paul's **LOGICAL** Question: *Has God completely and permanently rejected His people, Israel, because they have so radically rejected the Lord Jesus Christ? (11:1; 10:18-21)*

#### Israel's Rejection of Christ Was Radical

- Israel **heard** the gospel of Christ and **understood** what God was doing to save all peoples. (10:18-19)
  - 1) They were **JEALOUS** that God chose to save non-Jews!
  - 2) They were **ANGRY** that God revealed Himself to the spiritually ignorant.
  - 3) They were **FRUSTRATED** that God was saving those who were not seeking Him or pursuing His righteousness!
  
- Israel was **too proud** of their **self-righteousness** to repent and believe the gospel. (10:19-20)
  - 1) Too proud of their own **NATIONALITY**: "We alone are the chosen people of God!"
  - 2) Too proud of their own **SPIRITUALITY**: "We alone possess the true knowledge of God!"
  - 3) Too proud of their own **MORALITY**: "We alone are seeking to be right with God!"
  
- Israel's **disbelief** led to **disobedience** that eventually led to **defiance**. (10:16, 21)

#### Paul's Question about God Rejecting Them Is Logical

*"So I ask, God has not rejected his people, has he?" Romans 11:1 NET*

*"But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel" Romans 9:6*

- The **logical answer** from a Gentile Christian perspective might be....

- ▶ The **logical answer** from a Jewish Christian perspective might be....

*"For the LORD will not forsake His people; he will not abandon his heritage (inheritance)" Psalms 94:14*

*"For the LORD will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you a people for himself."  
1Samuel 12:22*

2. **Paul's BIBLICAL Answer:** By no means! God has not rejected His people, Israel—*completely or permanently!* (11:1-2, 11)

***No one's sin—including Israel's—is ever greater than God's sovereignty!  
God's saving purposes are always greater than the sinful choices of people!***

### **Why Should We CARE? We're Not Jewish!**

1. **Short Answer:** You and I may not be Jewish, but we are just as **SINFUL!** *Romans 3:23*

2. **Long Answer:** We should care because...

- ▶ A wrong answer to this question can lead to **anti-Semitism**... *just as it has often done throughout church history!*

*"Furthermore, with regard to Israel we are not dealing with a doctrinal emphasis that has little relationship with significant Christian ethics. Quite the contrary, as our study will unquestionably prove, **the wrong perception of Israel and the Jews by Christians, biblically speaking, has produced consequences of horrific proportions during the history of the Christian church in all its strands.**"  
~ Barry E. Horner, *Future Israel: Why Christian Anti-Judaism Must Be Challenged*, xix*

***God help us to care about what happens to His chosen people—  
otherwise we may find ourselves at war with God Himself!***

- ▶ A wrong answer to this question can lead to **replacement theology**... *just as it has for many theologians who believe that the Church has completely and permanently replaced Israel in God's saving purposes!*

*"The church, then, as the people of the New Covenant has taken the place of Israel, and national Israel is nothing other than the empty shell from which the pearl has been removed and which has lost its function in the history of redemption."  
~Herman Ridderbos as quoted by Barry E. Horner, *Future Israel: Why Christian Anti-Judaism Must Be Challenged*, xx.*

#### **What's the Big Deal If God Has Chosen to Replace Israel with the Church?**

- 1) **GOD** cannot be trusted to keep His promises to us, because has He has broken His promises to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, and David.
- 2) **THE BIBLE** cannot be trusted because many of the promises revealed in it to Israel will never be literally fulfilled.

*"And I confess with shame to having also myself used in print on more than one occasion this language of the replacement of Israel by the Church. It is only where the church persists in refusing to learn this message [of Romans 9-11], where it secretly—perhaps unconsciously—believes that its own existence is based on human achievement, and so fails to understand God's mercy to itself, that it is unable to believe in God's mercy for still unbelieving Israel, and so entertains the ugly and unscriptural notion that God has cast off His people Israel and simply replaced it by the Christian Church. These three chapters emphatically forbid us to speak of the Church as having once and for all taken the place of the Jewish people." ~C. E. B. Cranfield, *Romans Vol 2*, 448, n. 2*

***God help us to care about what happens to His chosen people—***

*otherwise we may have to repent of getting it wrong!*

- A wrong answer to this question can lead to **proud boasting**... just as it did in the church at Rome!  
Romans 11:18, 20, 25, 31-32

*God help us to care about what happens to His chosen people—  
but for the sovereign grace of God we would all still be lost in our sins just like them!*

- A wrong answer to this question can lead to **works salvation**... just as it did for the majority of Jews!
  - 1) **Romans 9** repeatedly taught us that salvation is rooted in God sovereign choice of us, not our human choice of Him.  
(9:11, 15-16, 18)
  - 2) **Romans 10** repeatedly taught us what Israel and sinners like us do with our responsibility to choose. (9:32; 10:2, 18-21)

*Salvation Is All of Grace –  
If we are saved it is all due to God's sovereign grace; if we are lost it is all due to our sinful rebellion!*

- 3) **Romans 11** will drive this point home as well. (11:5-10)

*God help us to care about what happens to His chosen people—  
we should have God's heart for the lost, especially His chosen people, Israel!*

Paul's HEART for the Lost ~ Especially Unbelieving ISRAEL		
<i>Romans 9:1-3</i>	<i>Romans 10:1</i>	<i>Romans 11:1-2</i>
A <b>Pain-filled</b> Heart Paul Shares His Personal Pain	A <b>Passion-filled</b> Heart Paul Shares His Passionate Prayer	A <b>Praise-filled</b> Heart Paul Shares Himself as Positive Proof
An <b>Aching</b> Heart Paul Loves So Much It Hurts	An <b>Asking</b> Heart Paul Wants It So Bad He Prays	An <b>Affirming</b> Heart Paul Sees God's Promises Kept in His Own Life
A <b>Grieving</b> Heart: Paul Bleeds with Sincerity	A <b>Giving</b> Heart: Paul Intercedes with Specificity	A <b>Grateful</b> Heart: Paul Feeds on Sovereignty
A <b>Sacrificial</b> Heart: "I would do it if I could..."	A <b>Supplicating</b> Heart: "I will it as much as I can..."	A <b>Saved</b> Heart: "I myself am also..."

**Let's Care about What God Cares about...Lost People Matter to God!**

*Start praying for 3 lost people in your circle of influence.*

*Begin inviting people to be your guest on Easter!*