

ROMANS

THE RELIABILITY OF GOD

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MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE, SHAWN & PATI HOELSCH

APRIL 19, 2020

The Rejected and the Remnant

Though Christ's beauty remains on display, the response remains spotty (10:18-21).

1. The beauty of Christ continues to spread.

Rom. 10:18 But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for "Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world."

2. Gentiles continue to respond more readily than the Israelites.

Rom. 10:19 But I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says, "I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation; with a foolish nation I will make you angry." **20** Then Isaiah is so bold as to say, "I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me."

This does not mean that God has rejected all of ethnic Israel (11:1-4).

Rom. 11:1a I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means!

1. Two examples demonstrate that not all of Israel has been rejected.

- a. Paul identifies himself as an ethnic Jew.

Rom. 1:11c For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

- b. Paul identifies an O.T. example of God's selectivity regarding Israel.

Rom. 11:2 God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? **3** "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life." **4** But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."

There will always be a chosen portion of Israel (5-6).

1. They are chosen on the basis of grace through faith.

Rom. 11:5 So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. **6** But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

Rom. 9:30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; **31** but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. **32** Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone,

2. They are chosen as instruments for the unfolding of God's plan.

Rom. 9:4 They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. **5** To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen... **11** though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—

Israel's rejection of God's plan (in Christ) warranted God's rejection of them (7-10).

Rom. 11:7 What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened, **8** as it is written, "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day." **9** And David says, "Let their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them; **10** let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see, and bend their backs forever."

God uses the failure of Israel to advance His purposes (11-12).

1. God uses Israel's rejection of Him to bring Gentiles to salvation.

Rom. 11:11a So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles,

2. God uses "Gentile" believers to stir up Israel's jealousy

Rom. 11:11b Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.

3. God has a plan for Israel.

Rom. 11:12 Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean!

SONGS

"Found in You" – Paul Baloche, Andi Rozier

"10,00 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" – Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman

"Jesus We Love You" – Hannah McClure, Kalley Heiligenthal, Paul McClure

"Forever" – Christa Black Gifford, Kari Jobe, Brian Johnson, Jenn Johnson, Joel Taylor, Gabriel Wilson

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$23,516.00
WEEKLY NEED: \$34,979.00

YTD GIVING: \$510,135.00
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$524,685.00