

96. The Book of Romans 10:14-18

Paul's Epistle to the Romans

A message by Pastor Phil Ballmaier

(7-23-25)

Find this week's Study Audio & Video [Here](#)

Tonight, we have come to the end of Romans 10 and we'll be entering into chapter 11.

Romans 10:13–18 (NKJV)

¹³ For *"whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."* ¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: *"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"* ¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, *"Lord, who has believed our report?"* ¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. ¹⁸ **But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: *"Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."***

Someone might insist that the Jews were not given adequate opportunity to hear the message of the gospel.

So, Paul said, **"But I say, have they not heard?"**

Romans 1:18–20 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.

Psalms 19:1–4 (NKJV)

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. ² Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. ³ *There is no speech nor language Where* their voice is not heard. ⁴ Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world.

Mankind has no excuse for not believing in God since God has given to every human being the outward evidence of the creation and in inward evidence of the conscience. However, the psalm goes on and discusses God's special revelation in the Old Testament—

Psalms 19:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ The law of the Lord *is* perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord *is* sure, making wise the simple; ⁸ The statutes of the Lord *are* right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord *is* pure, enlightening the eyes...

So, the obvious answer to Paul's question is that Israel had ample opportunity by both general revelation (creation) and special revelation (the Law and Prophets) to respond to God.

Romans 10:18–20 (NKJV)

¹⁸ But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: *“Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world.”* ¹⁹ **But I say, did Israel not know? First Moses says: “I will provoke you to jealousy by those who are not a nation, I will move you to anger by a foolish nation.”** ²⁰ But Isaiah is very bold and says: *“I was found by those who did not seek Me; I was made manifest to those who did not ask for Me.”*

The call of God to the Gentiles as a way of provoking the Jews to come back to Him by receiving their Messiah—should not have come as a surprise to the Jews.

Their own Scriptures foretold exactly what would happen—

Deuteronomy 32:21 (NKJV)

²¹ They have provoked Me to jealousy by *what* is not God; They have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols. But I will provoke them to jealousy by *those who are* not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation.

Then in Romans 10:20 Paul quotes Isaiah who himself quotes the Lord as being found by the Gentiles, who weren't really looking for Him, and being made manifest to those who weren't inquiring for Him—

Isaiah 65:1–2 (NKJV)

¹ “I was sought by *those who* did not ask for Me; I was found by *those who* did not seek Me. I said, ‘Here I am, here I am,’ To a nation *that* was not called by My name. ² I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, Who walk in a way *that is* not good, According to their own thoughts;

Taken as a whole, the Gentiles didn't seek after God (they weren't searching for the true God)—but rather were satisfied with their pagan religions.

And yet God pursued them and caused them to hear the gospel, and they responded (even more than the Jews) using the salvation of the Gentiles to provoke the Jews to jealousy and repentance—

One author commented on this—

“With these verses the argument takes a turn. The apostle anticipated another objection. Someone might argue, ‘Yes, Israel heard but she did not understand that God purposed to offer righteousness by faith to all mankind, including Gentiles.’ So, Paul wrote, ‘But I say again, did Israel not know?’ (verse 19) His answer this time was from two Old Testament quotations, one as early as Moses (Deuteronomy 32:21) and the second by Isaiah (Isaiah 65:1). Both Old Testament leaders wrote about God’s turning to the Gentiles, whom the Jews thought had no understanding...And yet concerning Israel, God has been gracious in spite of her disobedience (a quotation of Isaiah 65:2). Israel’s continuing rebellious and unbelieving disobedience was judged by God’s turning to the Gentiles (Romans 10:20; Acts 8:1-8, 10). At the same time God has not withheld salvation from Jews. He has held out His hands, imploring them to return to Him.”

Romans 10:21 (NKJV)

²¹ But to Israel he says: *“All day long I have stretched out My hands to a disobedient and contrary people.”*

This is the main way Christianity (a relationship with God) differs from religion.

Religion starts with man, focuses on man's efforts and goodness to step on his little self-righteous tippy-toes—and if he's good enough and tries hard enough through his religious works—he can reach high enough to touch the hem of God's robe.

Or as someone else has put it, *“Through religion, each ‘good work’ becomes a step in a ‘stairway’ that man constructs and can use to climb up to heaven.”*

Whereas Christianity is God stooping down to touch man—to rescue fallen human beings by becoming one of us and living the life we couldn’t live and then dying the death we couldn’t die—the innocent dying for the guilty.

Pastor Chuck Smith—

“Man’s religions have man trying to do the prayers and all of the things necessary to reach God. And they have their prescribed ways by which they feel that God can be touched or reached by man...you have to fast and you have to do this and you have to do that in order to touch God.

But Christianity says, it’s not by the works of righteousness, that you can touch God. You’ll never touch God by your good works! Your righteousness doesn’t count!

You’ve got to put your faith and trust in the Lord. And as you put your faith in Him, He’ll account that faith for righteousness. Works can never save you. It’s your trust and your faith in Jesus that saves you.

And so, we see the picture, God, with the nation of Israel, stretching out His hands. And in chapter 11, we will see how that one day, God who is so patient. God, who is so longsuffering. God, who is so faithful, will one day again work among this nation and those people (Israel).”

IV. Restoration (of Israel)—Chapters 9-11

A. Israel’s Past: Their Election by God—Chapters 9:1-29

B. Israel’s Present: Their Rejection of God—Chapters 9:30—10:21

C. Israel’s Future: Their Restoration to God—Chapters 11:1-36

Romans 10:21 (NKJV)

²¹ But to Israel he says: "All day long I have stretched out My hands to a disobedient and contrary people."

Romans 11:1 (NKJV)

¹ I say then, has God cast away His people...?

Depending on who you listen to today many are saying—yes!

Many today believe that because Israel rejected her Messiah, she, as a nation, has forfeited the promises that God gave to her and now the Church has taken her place and has become *“spiritual Israel.”*

And as such, all the promises God gave to Israel now belong to the Church and Israel is finished, the nation has been permanently set aside, discarded by God—and the covenant He made with them has been rendered null and void.

This is the position that most Christian denominations and many independent churches today have embraced—it’s called *“Replacement Theology.”*

“Replacement Theology” is the belief that the Church of today has replaced Israel in God’s prophetic program.

Author Joel Richardson comments on this—

“Over the past 2,000 years, among all the various theological errors that have crept into the Christian church, there is no question that replacement theology is one of the most widespread and, I would argue, perverse and

vile. Replacement theology essentially holds that because (most) Jews rejected Jesus (Yahshua) as their Messiah, they were thus judged by God in 70 A.D., when their nation and Temple were destroyed. Since that time, replacement theologians argue, God has now replaced Israel with the Church, transferring all of His previous promises and purposes from the Jewish people and nation to the entity known as the Christian church.

The fruit of this belief system has been glaringly evident throughout church history. As demonstrated in the book, *Our Hands are Stained with Blood*, by Dr. Michael Brown, he said, ‘*Replacement theology was among the primary theological and ideological foundations of the Spanish Inquisition and the expulsion of roughly 150,000 Jews from Spain in 1492, the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Jews during the crusades and, ultimately, the Holocaust.*’

But replacement theology is not only problematic because of the negative fruit it produces, but also because of the interpretive violence it inflicts onto hundreds of very clear biblical passages. Replacement theology looks to the blessings found throughout the Old Testament promised to Israel and “spiritually” applies them to the Church.

An open letter issued by Knox Theological Seminary in 2002, entitled, “*The People of God, the Land of Israel, and the Impartiality of the Gospel*,” states, “*The Church of Jesus Christ, [is] the true Israel.*” However, when replacement theologians read of any judgment against Israel in the Old Testament, they continue to apply these passages literally to Israel. Funny how that works, isn’t it? Replacement theology denies any future where Jesus will rule the earth from Zion. As the statement words it, “*Furthermore, a day should not be anticipated in which Christ’s Kingdom will manifest Jewish distinctives, whether by its location in ‘the land,’ by its constituency, or by its ceremonial institutions and practices.*”

When conservative Premillennialists look at the hermeneutical violence inflicted on hundreds of passages committed by these replacement theologians, we shudder to imagine how anyone could so radically reinterpret the Bible, often to mean the exact opposite of what it actually says. When they read “Israel” they spiritualize and universalize the term to mean “church.” When they read “Zion” or “Jerusalem,” they allegorize and universalize it to mean the “invisible Kingdom of God.” Virtually everything is reinterpreted into some vague, spiritualized, allegorized or universalized reality.”

Romans 10:1 (NKJV)

¹ Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.

If the Church is Israel—this doesn’t make sense!

**Beware of those who spiritualize large portions
of the Scriptures to make it fit their theology!**

In the Bible God identifies Himself 203 times as “the God of Israel”, “the God of Jacob” 28 times, “the God of Abraham” 17 times, and “the God of Isaac” 13 times. In His Word God tells us that the covenant He made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (the nation of Israel), was an everlasting covenant—or in other words, a covenant that the Jews couldn’t forfeit!

Yet that is the position taken by those who say that Israel has been replaced by the Church.

Genesis 12:7 (NKJV)

⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

Genesis 13:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ "for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever."

Genesis 15:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates [literal borders of a literal land]--

Genesis 17:7-8 (NKJV)

⁷ "And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.

⁸ "Also, I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

1 Chronicles 16:14–18 (NKJV)

¹⁴ He *is* the Lord our God; His judgments *are* in all the earth. ¹⁵ Remember His covenant forever, The word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, ¹⁶ *The covenant which* He made with Abraham, And His oath to Isaac, ¹⁷ And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, To Israel *for* an everlasting covenant, ¹⁸ Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan As the allotment of your inheritance."

Eleven times in Scripture God calls the covenant He made with the nation of Israel an "everlasting" covenant.

Furthermore, the prophets foretold that the Messiah would be rejected by Israel and crucified—yet in all of those prophecies there is never a suggestion that because of this rejection God would break His everlasting covenant with Israel.

Yet in his book, *The Last Disciple* (p. 88), Hank Hanegraaff has a key character say, "*The covenant between God and Israel was broken with the rejection of His Son.*"

Hanegraaff gives no explanation how an "everlasting covenant" could ever be broken, nor how Israel's rejection of Christ could break a covenant that was not conditional upon her accepting Him, a covenant for which there were never any conditions Israel had to fulfill, and which God said He would bring to completion in the last days.

And in fact, as one author puts it, "*At the same time that God promises eternal blessings to Israel in a full restoration in the last days—He also recites her unfaithfulness to Him without a hint that the many sins of Israel and the Jewish people would be any deterrent to His fulfilling all of His promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.*"

That's because the covenant God made with Abraham (and Israel) was a unilateral, unconditional covenant.

❖ (Listen for explanation from Genesis 15)

Deuteronomy 1:8 (NKJV)

⁸ 'See, I have set the land before you; go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers--to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob--to give to them and their descendants after them.'

Jeremiah 7:7 (NKJV)

⁷ "then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.

Ezekiel 36:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ "I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bear young; I will make you inhabited as in former times, and do better *for you* than at your beginnings. Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Ezekiel 36:22-26 (NKJV)

²² "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I do not do *this* for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went. ²³ "And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I *am* the LORD, ' says the Lord GOD, "when I am hallowed in you before their eyes. ²⁴ "For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:32-36 (NKJV)

³² "Not for your sake do I do *this*," says the Lord GOD, "let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel!" ³³ "Thus says the Lord GOD: "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable *you* to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt. ³⁴ "The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by. ³⁵ "So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities *are now* fortified *and* inhabited.' ³⁶ "Then the nations which are left all around you shall know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places *and* planted what was desolate. I, the LORD, have spoken *it*, and I will do *it*."

Here again, as elsewhere, it is quite clear that there are no conditions for Israel to fulfill, but God will, for the integrity of His name, fulfill every promise in spite of Israel's rebellion against Him.

And yet many Christian denominations have initiated a boycott against companies that do business with Israel (the BDS movement—'boycott, divestment, sanctions').

Author Dave Hunt said,

"Replacement theologians...and many others allied with them have rejected modern Israel as of any significance in the fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

In *"An Open Letter to Evangelicals and Other Interested Parties: The People of God, the Land of Israel, and the Impartiality of the Gospel,"* they declare:

"The inheritance promises that God gave to Abraham...do not apply to any particular ethnic group, but to the church of Jesus Christ, the true Israel....The entitlement of any one ethnic or religious group to territory in the Middle East called the "Holy Land" cannot be supported by Scripture. In fact, the land promises specific to Israel in the Old Testament were fulfilled under Joshua."

Hunt responds incredulously—

"An everlasting covenant fulfilled under Joshua, who only lived 110 years?! Hundreds of "promises specific to Israel in the Old Testament" had not even been foretold by Israel's prophets until centuries after Joshua died!" Even the prophecies made by Moses during the lifetime of Joshua that Israel would sin and be cast out of the land were not fulfilled "under Joshua."

- It is irrefutable that Israel once possessed a physical, historical land that was given to her by God's eternal decree.
- It is equally an historical fact that she was expelled from this land by God Himself for her rebellion not once but twice (600 BC and again in 70 AD).
- And it is no less an historical fact that Israel became a nation once again, May 14, 1948, and that millions of Jews have since returned to that Promised Land from more than 100 countries, just as Scripture foretold in (Ezekiel 36 and 37).

This can be nothing less than the beginnings of God's promised restoration of Israel so that her latter end would be better than her beginning.

Jeremiah 23:7-8 (NKJV)

⁷ "Therefore, behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "that they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,' [in Joshua's day]

⁸ "but, 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the north country [Russia and others] and from all the countries where I had driven them.' And they shall dwell in their own land."

This is being fulfilled in our day.

➤ *Why is this important for us who are Christians?*

➤ *Why should we care about what happens to Israel?*

"Why?" Because if "*everlasting*" concerning the covenant God made with Israel, doesn't mean everlasting—then how can we trust the covenant He made with us when He promised us everlasting life to those who believe on Jesus? (John 3:16 and others).

That's why our understanding of Israel and God's promises and faithfulness to Israel are so vital to our understanding of God's plan and promises He made to His Church—*God's character is on the line!*

→ "*Israel, My glory!*" (Isaiah 46:13)

It is also important because Christians need to support and pray for Israel because as God has said, "*Whoever touches Israel touches the apple of My eye*" and "*I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you*" speaking to Abraham and his descendants. (Genesis 12:3).

From a spiritual standpoint, since God's plan to bless the world would come through one nation—if Satan could destroy that nation he could thwart the plan of God.

If Satan could wipe out Israel, then he could destroy God's entire prophetic plan for the world and destroy the character of God at the same time by making Him a liar for not fulfilling His promises to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and their descendants!

This is true spiritual worldwide warfare!

Anti-Semitism is a demonic thing that goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden—

Genesis 3:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

God is promising that someday He would send a Messiah, a Savior who would crush the serpent's head (Satan's authority over mankind and the earth). Satan didn't like the idea of having his head crushed by anyone, so he decided to launch a preemptive attack against the purposes of God by attacking the people of God.

In particular the Jewish Messianic line:

- *The killing of Able by Cain (Genesis 4)*

- *The whole world was corrupted in the days of Noah (Genesis 6)*
- *The attempt by Esau to kill Jacob (Genesis 27)*
- *Pharaoh tried to kill the Hebrew baby boys (Exodus 1)*
- *The attempt by Queen Athalia to wipe out the royal line (2 Chronicles 22:10-12)*
- *Haman getting the King of Persia to issue a decree to have the Jews exterminated (Book of Esther)*
- *Herod the Great ordered all the Jewish boys in Bethlehem killed that were 2 years old and under (Matthew 2)*

The devil throughout history has done his best to destroy the Jews and in particular the Messianic line so that Messiah could not have been born.

You might be thinking to yourself, “Yes, but He was born and died and rose again—so why does anti-Semitism still continue?”

- *Why were Jews slaughtered by the Crusaders in the 11th century whose motto was: “Kill a Jew and save your soul”?*
- *Why was there a Hitler who killed 6 million Jews, and why are Muslims so determined to eradicate the Jews from the face of the earth?*
- *And for that matter why is there coming the greatest holocaust against the Jewish people they will ever be subjected to under the Antichrist?*

The answer is obvious, which Paul hits head on here in Romans 11—**God is not finished with the nation of Israel!!**

God’s prophetic promises are still tied to this nation’s survival and restoration. → Read Revelation 12

The survival of the Jewish people throughout history is a testimony to the existence and faithfulness of God.

Queen Victoria said to her prime minister one day—“Show me one thing that proves God is real and the Bible is true.” His response was interesting and right on the money—“The Jew madam, the Jew.”

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a Jesus-follower—please reach out to us. It would be our greatest privilege to lead you into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

Want to know more? Click [here](#).

Catch this week’s audio, video, study and sermon notes [HERE](#).