

Romans 11:25-36

**Future Plans for Israel
&
The Glory of God**

Review

Romans 9-11 – The Gospel and Israel

**Romans 9:1-30 – God’s integrity and
sovereignty**

Romans 9:31-10:21 – Israel’s responsibility

**Romans 11:1-24 – God’s past and present
plans for Israel**

Our Three Questions

- **What does it say?**
 - **Authorial intent and intended audience**
- **What does it mean?**
 - **Timeless theological truth**
- **How does it apply?**
 - **What do we do with this?**

Romans 11:25-36

²⁵ Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, “The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob”; ²⁷ “and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins.”

Romans 11:25-36

²⁸ As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

Romans 11:25-36

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴ “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵ “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Road Map

- Unpacking the “mystery” of God’s plans
 - What is “all Israel”
- God’s irrevocable and unstoppable word
- Paul’s response to God’s plan and work
 - The depths of God’s riches, wisdom, and knowledge
 - A God above counsel and debt
 - God the origin, upholder, and purpose of all things

Romans 11:25a

²⁵ Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers:

Paul gives us the heart and reason for what he's about to tell us.

The interpretation of what he's about to say is difficult and debated, but the heart behind it is not.

Romans 11:25b

a partial hardening has come upon
Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles
has come in.

Partial hardening – “remnant” & “until”

Fullness of the Gentiles – The triggering moment

The implication: the hardening will *then* be lifted

Romans 11:25b

²⁶ And in this way all Israel will be saved,
as it is written,

“The Deliverer will come from Zion,
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob”;
²⁷ “and this will be my covenant with them
when I take away their sins.”

Romans 11:25b

And in this way, all Israel will be saved,

...

In this way – Imagine someone pointing to a map

“All Israel” – A statement conveying “full inclusion”

Other positions: “All *spiritual* Israel” or Remnants from each generation converted by jealousy

Romans 11:26b-27

**“The Deliverer will come from Zion,
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob”;
²⁷ “and this will be my covenant with them
when I take away their sins.”**

Two examples of statements

From: God

To: Israel

Unopened

Romans 11:28

²⁸ As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers.

In relation to the Gospel – Enemies – For Gentiles

In relation to Election – Beloved – For Forefathers

Romans 11:29

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

God has not rejected His people (11:1 & 11)

God's word has not failed (9:6)

**He is trustworthy and very patient
(Romans 8:1, 18, 28-30, 38-39)**

Romans 11:29

³⁰ For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

**Our disobedience shown mercy through theirs.
Mercy on us rolls into mercy for them.**

**How does this conclusion
ultimately answer the
question that prompts
chapters 9-11?**

**If the Gospel is true, why is
it that so much of Israel has
rejected it?**

Answer:

- Not all Israel is Israel
- God's word has not failed
- Israel failed to pursue righteousness through faith
- This work of God is the very act that will ultimately lead to the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel

Romans 11:33-36

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches
and wisdom and knowledge of
God! How unsearchable are his
judgments and how inscrutable his
ways!

Romans 11:33-36

³⁴ “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵ “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:33

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

“Oh” – Onomatopoeia

The depth of the ...

- Riches
- Wisdom
- Knowledge

Romans 11:34-35

³⁴ “For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵ “Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?”

Two rhetorical questions

1. Who can teach God?
2. Who can put God in their debt?

Romans 11:28

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be glory forever. Amen

From Him are all things

Through Him are all things

To Him are all things

Questions

- Paul begins Romans 9-11 with lament and ends with praise. As we have worked through these chapters (9-11) on God's sovereignty, man's responsibility, and God's plan of salvation, where has your heart been?
- How have you handled the intellectual difficulty? Does it lead you to frustration in God's design, amazement at His work, or something else? Are you tempted to give God "advice"?
- When you read Paul say that God is not in anyone's debt, how do you feel about that? Do you feel that God owes you or others something? Do you ever find yourself trying to pay God off?
- What are your thoughts on the importance of God's glory?