

The Mystery of Israel's Future Hope

Romans 11:25-36

Main Idea: The Lord's hardening of Israel is not the end of the story, for God's mercy will once again reach into Israel and redeem them. This truth leads us to worship God for both His mystery and His majesty.

Has there ever been a season when you thought you had no future or no hope?

Israel's Hope: Mercy and Mystery (vv. 25-32)

- Israel's spiritual hardening will be lifted - **v. 25**
 - God can harden the heart - **Isaiah 6:8-13**
 - God can replace it with a new one - **Jeremiah 31:31**
- God's Mercy will once again flow to Israel - **vv. 26-27**
 - The mystery?
 - They will see Jesus - **v 26a**
 - **Isaiah 59:20-21**

“ ‘All Israel’ is a recurring expression in Jewish literature, where it need not mean ‘every Jew without a single exception,’ but ‘Israel as a whole’ ” F. F. Bruce

- They will follow Jesus - **v. 26b**
 - **Galatians 5:25**
 - They will be forgiven by Jesus - **v. 27**
 - **Hebrews 8:11-12**
- Three hope-giving truths for Israel (and us!) **vv. 28-32**
 - God's promises are always fulfilled - **vv. 28-29**
 - God's judgment of us is always true - **vv. 30-31**
 - **Romans 3:22-23**
 - God's mercy is always without prejudice - **v. 32**
 - **Romans 10:13**

Our Response: Praise and Glory - vv. 33-36

- We glory in God for his infinite wisdom and knowledge
 - **Isaiah 40:13-14**
- We glory in God though we can never fully comprehend him

- Mystery: **Isaiah 55:9**
- Majesty: **Job 41:1-11**
- We glory in God who is the source, sustainer, and end of all things
 - **1 Chronicles 29:14**
 - **Colossians 1:15–20**

“All comes from him, all lives by him, all ends in him.”

So What?

- Does my life have a present purpose and future hope?
 - **1 Corinthians 15:58**

Now What?

Job 41:1–11 — “Can You Stand Before God?”

Main Idea: God uses Leviathan to remind Job that if mankind cannot control one of God's creatures, we certainly cannot stand over or control its Creator.

- **What does God's description of Leviathan teach Job about the limits of human power? (vv.1-7)**
 - GG Leader: Lead a discussion reviewing the story that led Job to this encounter
 - What is a Leviathan? Isaiah 27:1: A great sea creature of some kind. (Literally: Coiled one)
 - Why do you think God asks Job these questions rather than simply giving him answers?
- **What do verses 8–10 teach us about fear, weakness, and our proper posture before God?**
 - If someone tried to battle with this creature, what would happen? (v.8)
 - How does God contrast himself with the Leviathan?
 - How can recognizing our limitations actually strengthen our faith?
- **What is God's main point in verse 10: “Who then is he who can stand before Me?”**
 - Why was Job challenging or questioning God?
 - If Leviathan is beyond Job's control, what does that say about Job's ability to question or challenge God?
- **According to verse 11, what does God owe us?**

- How should knowing that “**whatever is under the whole heaven is Mine**” change the way we respond when we do not understand what God is doing?
- Does God owe us an answer for what we are facing? How then do we deal with a time of unbearable suffering?
- What could have been a better way for Job to come to God in his suffering?

Closing Application:

Faith does not require us to understand everything God is doing; it requires us to trust the God who sovereignly rules over everything.