

Romans 11:11-24
For the week of October 29, 2023

Reflection

1. What were some of the takeaways, for you, from Sunday's sermon?

2. Were there questions, comments, concerns...?

Paul has been arguing that a remnant of Israel will be saved, but only a remnant. What about the sinning majority? Are they lost forever? That is not what Paul is saying. He proceeds now to make three points: (1) Israel has indeed "stumbled" but their stumble is not final, (2) God uses this "stumble" to bring salvation to the Gentiles, and (3) in the end the Jews will be brought in. He sees the purpose of God as worked out through what has happened to the Jews, and precisely because it is the purpose of God that is worked out he is fundamentally optimistic. The God who has done so much for his people will see them through to the end.¹

Observation (vs. 11-12)

3. What point is Paul making in these verses?

Interpretation

4. How has the Jews' rejection of the Gospel made way for the Gentiles to come to salvation (see also John 10:16 and Acts 28:28)?

5. Why is Paul full of great expectation in verse 12 (look ahead into next week's verses 11:25-26)?

¹ Leon Morris, *The Epistle to the Romans*, The Pillar New Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press, 1988), 405–406.

Application

6. Knowing that salvation is for all, how does this impact your spiritual walk with Christ?

7. How does this spur you on to fulfill Matthew 28:19-20 in your sphere of influence?

Observation (vs. 13-16)

8. What is Paul saying in these verses?

Interpretation

9. Is Paul changing the focus of his audience from Jew to Gentile? Why or why not?

10. Why does Paul include the “dough offering” in verse 16 (see also Num 15:18-21)?

Application

11. How have you been reconciled? How do you respond to that reconciliation (see Rom 5:11)?

Observation (vs. 17-21)

12. What are these verses describing?

Interpretation

13. Explain “broken off” and “grafted in” (vs. 19-20).

14. Compare verse 20 with I Cor 10:12 and I Tim 6:17).

Application

15. How can the trespass of the Jews (see also verse 12) be a warning or caution for you in your walk with Christ?

Observation (vs. 22-24)

16. What is Paul telling his Gentile audience in these verses?

Interpretation

17. How is God's kindness and severity defined in the context of these verses?

18. What is the implication for Gentiles and Israel in the “grafting” in the olive tree?

Application

19. After reading these verses, what is your takeaway for your walk with Christ?