#### The Truth Is, God Is Still in Israel's Corner and We Should Be Too Romans 11:1-32

 God's election of Israel and His plan for them is still intact. So, let's thank God for His unconditional faithfulness. (v. 1-11, 28-32)

#### Romans 11:1-11, 28-32

<sup>1</sup> I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

<sup>2</sup> 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?

<sup>3</sup> "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life."

#### Romans 11:1-11, 28-32

<sup>4</sup> But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."

<sup>5</sup> So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace.
<sup>6</sup> But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works;
<u>otherwise grace</u> would no longer be grace.

<sup>7</sup> What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened,

#### Romans 11:1-11, 28-32

<sup>8</sup> 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."

<sup>9</sup> And David says, "Let their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them;

<sup>10</sup> let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see, and bend their backs forever."

<sup>11</sup> 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, so as to make Israel jealous.

#### Romans 11:1-11, 28-32

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

<sup>29</sup> For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

<sup>30</sup> For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience,

<sup>31</sup> so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy.

<sup>32</sup> For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

 God's election of Israel and His plan for them is still intact. So, let's thank God for His unconditional faithfulness. (v. 1-11, 28-32)

- God has not rejected Israel nor has He written them out of His will.
- God always keeps a remnant of faithful people in Israel because He always keeps His promises.

2. Israel's rejection of Jesus means inclusion for us. So, let's see Israel as our friend. (v. 12-18)

#### Romans 11:12-18

<sup>12</sup> 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!

<sup>13</sup> Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry

<sup>14</sup> in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them.

<sup>15</sup> For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?

Romans 11:12-18

<sup>16</sup> If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

<sup>17</sup> But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree,

<sup>18</sup> do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you.

2. Israel's rejection of Jesus means inclusion for us. So, let's see Israel as our friend. (v. 12-18)

- Since God has not rejected His people, then we shouldn't either.
- God's heart for Israel is at the center of His love for all people.

3. Israel is not without fault or beyond accountability. So, let's acknowledge their imperfections. (v. 19-24)

Romans 11:19-24

<sup>19</sup> Then you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in."

<sup>20</sup> That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear.

<sup>21</sup> For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you.

<sup>22</sup> Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off.

Romans 11:19-24

<sup>23</sup> And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again.

<sup>24</sup> For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.

3. Israel is not without fault or beyond accountability. So, let's acknowledge their imperfections. (v. 19-24)

- Israel does not get a free pass on everything they do regardless of what they do, good or bad.
- Supporting Israel does not mean turning a blind eye to their faults or not holding them accountable to what is good and right.

4. Israel has a God-given right and responsibility to protect themselves and their land. So, let's understand that they are justified in their fight against Hamas. (Romans 13:1-4)

Romans 13:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

<sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

Romans 13:1-4

<sup>3</sup> For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval,

<sup>4</sup> for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

4. Israel has a God-given right and responsibility to protect themselves and their land. So, let's understand that they are justified in their fight against Hamas. (Romans 13:1-4)

- This battle and call by God to possess the land and root out the enemy goes all the way back to the very beginning of history.
- Let us learn from Israel and make sure we root out the sin and stumbling blocks in our lives.

#### 5. Evangelism to our neighbors is salvation for Isael. So, let's go share Jesus. (v. 25-27)

Romans 11:25-27

<sup>25</sup> 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.

<sup>26</sup> 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";

<sup>27</sup> "and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins."

#### 5. Evangelism to our neighbors is salvation for Isael. So, let's go share Jesus. (v. 25-27)