

Romans 11:11-24

XLI. God has not canceled His Promises to Israel -Pt 2 – His setting Israel aside is Passing

A. The Purpose of His Setting Aside

1. Not an afterthought or done out of anger – vs 11a
  - a. I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not!
    - i. Have they through unbelief and disobedience become unsalvageable?
    - ii. Stumbling referring to the rejection of the Messiah
  - b. God gave them a spirit of stupor and darkened their eyes – vs 8,10
  - c. But through their fall, - *paraptoma* - a side-slip (lapse or deviation), (unintentional) error or (willful) transgression, fall, fault, offence, sin, trespass.
2. Gentile Salvation – vs 11b
  - a. salvation has come to the Gentiles.
  - b. Paul already quoted De 32:21 in 10:19
  - c. Jesus said that Gentiles
    - i. would come and be a part of the kingdom Israel was promised – Mt 8:11-12
    - ii. taken from Israel and given to those that would bear its fruit – Mt 21:43
    - iii. Parable of the Kings invitation of strangers to his son’s wedding – Mt 22:1-14
  - d. Foretold to
    - i. Abraham – Ge 12:3
    - ii. Moses – Ex 19:6
    - iii. Isaiah – Is 49:6
    - iv. Paul – Ac 13:46-47; 18:6; 28:25-28
3. Jewish Salvation – vs 11c-15
  - a. to provoke them to jealousy
    - i. *parazelloo* - to stimulate alongside, excite to rivalry, provoke to emulation (jealousy).
    - ii. Inf. form carrying the idea of purpose
    - iii. Though jealousy is a negative term, God uses it in a positive way – Ro 10:19-20
  - b. The ultimate purpose was “their fullness”
    - i. Fall – see above – A.1.c.
    - ii. Failure – *hettema* - a deterioration, failure, loss, diminishing, fault.
    - iii. Israel was supposed to see the blessings of God on the church and be drawn back to God – “riches for the world”, “riches for the Gentiles”
      - The spiritual realities of a transformed life
      - The witness that would tap their divinely-inspired jealousy
      - Instead, Antisemitism by Gentiles has rivaled Israel’s prejudice against the Gentiles, even by the church
  - c. how much more their fullness!
    - i. *pleroma* - repletion or completion, what fills (as contents, supplement, copiousness, multitude), what is filled (as container, performance, period), which is put in to fill up, piece that filled up, fulfilling, full, fulness.
    - ii. If faithless Israel brought riches (salvation) to the world, Gentiles, what will Israel’s faithfulness bring - Zech 12:10; 13:1; 14:9,11,16

iii. The returning starts in the tribulation – Rev 7:4

d. Paul's calling and its work – vs 13-15

i. I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry - Ac 9:15; 22:21; Eph 3:8; 1Ti 2:7; 2Ti 1:11

ii. if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them.

iii. For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

- Not resurrection of individual bodies

- Israel's receiving spiritual life as a gracious gift – Is 11:1-9; Rev 20

B. The Warning from His Setting Aside – vs 19-22

1. Irrefutable Logic

a. if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy

i. *aparche* - a beginning of sacrifice, the (Jewish) first-fruit.

ii. An offering of any kind, animal, grain – refers to the first portion – Nu 15:19-21 – was used to feed the priests - Le 23:10

iii. The firstfruits were an acknowledgement that it all belonged to the Lord, therefore the lump was holy also

b. if the root is holy, so are the branches.

i. The foundational part of the plant

ii. For Israel, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were the root

iii. The Nation of Israel would be holy (set apart for God's design) – Is 51:1-2

2. Grafting for productivity

a. Olive trees can live for centuries

i. The older they get, the less productive they become

ii. To get better productivity, they graft branches from younger trees to the branches the stopped producing

b. Paul's illustration

i. And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree,

- Some, not all of the branches were broken off – Jer 11:16-17

- Always a remnant – among them, with them – Ro 4:11

ii. The command b/c of the known tendency toward arrogant, presumptuous pride - 1Co 10:12; Ro 12:16

- do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you. - The Gentiles were not the source of blessing, Israel was

- How the pride would be shown - You will say then, Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in.

- The answer - Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear. For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. – Eph 2:11-12

iii. Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

- Severity - *apotomia* - decisiveness, rigor, severity. From the root *ekkopto* which is how the vs ends

- i. Fall – *pipto* - to fall, fail, fall (down), light on. Connoting failure to complete ruin or falling from spiritual opportunity to judgment
- ii. Cut off - *ekkopto* - to excind; to frustrate, cut down (off, out), hew down, hinder.

- continue in His goodness – perseverance of the saints – Jo 8:31; 15:5-6;  
Col 1:22-23; Heb 3:6,12-14; 4:11; 1 Jo 2:19

### C. The Definite Promise from His Setting Aside – vs 23-24

#### 1. The condition for return

- a. And they also – the Nation of Israel
- b. if they do not continue in unbelief

#### 2. God’s promised return of Israel

- a. A work in the heart of the Nation - Zech 12:10; 2 Co 3:16
- b. A work of God – Eze 37:1-6

i. will be grafted in, - passive voice

ii. for God is able to graft them in again.

iii. Divine protection of God’s property and the remnant during the tribulation –  
Rev 11:1-4

#### 3. God’s Ability

- a. That which was done “contrary to nature”

i. you (Gentiles) were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature

ii. were grafted .... into a cultivated olive tree,

- b. The easy part

i. how much more will these, who are natural branches,

ii. be grafted into their own olive tree?