

# Romans 11:7-16

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## God Hardens Israel

### Ch. 11 – Proofs of God’s faithfulness, by His Dealings with Israel

- 1) God’s Dealings with Paul – v. 1
- 2) God’s Dealings with the Remnant of Israel– v. 2-6
- 3) God’s Dealings with the Rest of Israel – v. 7-32

#### a) THAT God is hardening Israel – v. 7-10

1. Israel still exists
2. “The Rest” (v. 7) = Nation of Israel
3. “Israel” has been “hardened” by God

### Aside on Hardening

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#### **#1 – Meaning of “harden”**

#### **# 2 – God does harden individuals**

- In General – Rom 9:18
- Gentile Nations – Exod 4-14, Deut 2:30, Josh 11:20, 1 Sam 2:25
- Israel – Deut 29:4 (Rom 11:8); Josh 24:19 (Judg 2:10-11), Isa 6:9-10, 63:17
- In Jesus’ Day – Mark 6:52, 8:17; John 12:37-40
- Israel in the Present Day – Rom 11:7,25

#### **#3 – How hardening works (and doesn’t)**

- Providence / Concurrence –  
*God works cooperatively with His creation to cause / direct their every act to accomplish His purposes in such a way that men are fully responsible and God is free from sin.*
- How it does NOT work...

#### **#4 – Why God hardens**

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### b) WHY God is hardening Israel – v. 11-16

1. Not to destroy them – v. 11
  
2. To bless the Gentiles
  - v. 11 – salvation has come to the Gentiles
  - v. 12 – riches for the world / Gentiles
  - v. 15 – reconciliation for the world
  - v. 15 – life from the dead
  
3. To Makes Israel Jealous

### Praxis

1. What are some examples in human society of someone being required to walk a very tough road for the sake of a tremendous outcome?
2. Read Deut 30:1-10... Identify the exact act(s) and actor(s) that will bring about Israel's final blessing? How might this help us understand their temporary hardening?
3. What are some areas of immediate pain God has planned for those in Christ that you may seek to avoid? What are the greater blessings in the end for each of those?
4. As a Gentile believer, how do God's dealings with Israel directly affect you?