

Home Group Discussion Questions

Sunday 21st May 2017

(Questions cover 14th & 21st May 2017)

Romans 11: 1-36

This chapter brings to a climax Paul's enquiry as to how Israel's present rejection of the Gospel can sit alongside God's covenant with Israel. Paul's passion is to show that God's promises are still utterly reliable.

1. In v.1-12 what are the central reasons Paul offers as to why God certainly has not defaulted on his promise to Israel?
2. In practical terms, in what way does the salvation of the Gentiles make Israel envious?
3. What are the main points Paul is wanting to draw out from the allegory of the olive tree (v.17-24)?
4. What do you think is meant by the statement 'all Israel will be saved' (v.26)?
5. Read v.28-32. What is the overall pattern of what God is doing and what is 'the end of the story'?
6. The overall emphasis of v.31 and 32 is mercy – the triumph God's mercy. Do you think that we often have an image of God which is too severe, sometimes even mean?
7. These three chapters end with a great doxology (v.33-36). What is the heart and content of this hymn of praise? What do these verses teach us about worship?
8. Reviewing these three chapters as a whole, what are the issues today that make us doubt God's promises and how do these chapters help?