

## 2. Israel's unbelief and rejection is only TEMPORARY

NOT PERMANENT (vv. 11-32)

Again I ask: Did they stumble so as to **fall beyond recovery?**  
**Not at all!** (v. 11a)

✓ God SET THEM ASIDE for two reasons: (vv. 11-16)

1) to give an opportunity for the GENTILES to be  
SAVED (cf. Acts 13:46; 18:6)

His purpose was to **make His salvation available to the Gentiles...**  
(v. 11b, NLT)

2) to AROUSE the ENVY of the Jews  
...and then the **Jews would be jealous and want it for themselves...** I make much of my ministry in the hope **that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them.**  
(vv. 11c, 13b-14a, NLT/NIV)

✓ QUESTION: How should we respond? (vv. 17-24)

1) Avoid PRIDE

If some of the branches of the tree have been lopped off, while you, a shoot of wild-olive, have been grafted in, and share like a natural branch the rich nourishment of the root, **don't let yourself feel superior to the former branches...** I want you to understand this mystery **so that you won't become arrogant.**  
(vv. 17-18, Ph.; v. 25a, GWT)

2) Have REVERENCE & KEEP TRUSTING

They lost their position because they failed to believe; **you only maintain yours because you do believe.** The situation does **not call for conceit but for a certain wholesome fear.** (v. 20, Ph.)

3) Don't BE PRESUMPTUOUS

If God removed the natural branches for a good reason, **take care that you don't give Him the same reason for removing you. You must try to appreciate both the kindness and strict justice of God.** Those who fell experienced His justice, while you are experiencing His kindness, and **will continue to do so**

**as long as you do not abuse that kindness.** Otherwise you too will be cut off from the tree. (vv. 21-22, Ph.)

4) Eager ANTICIPATION

And **if the people of Israel turn from their unbelief, they will be grafted in again, for God has the power to graft them back into the tree...** For since their rejection meant that God offered salvation to the rest of the world, **their acceptance will be even more wonderful.**  
(v. 23 & 15, NLT)

✓ QUESTION: What will happen ultimately to Israel? (vv. 25-32)

● Answer: Israel will one day become a "CHRISTIAN" NATION

...**a partial hardening has come upon Israel...but this will last only until the complete number of Gentiles comes to Christ.** And in this way **all Israel will be saved...** (vv. 25-26, ESV/NLT)

● How will this happen? By GRACE THROUGH FAITH

Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy...**God has placed all people into the prison of their own disobedience so that He could be merciful to all people.**  
(vv. 30-32, ESV/GWT)

## III. POSTSCRIPT OF PRAISE (vv. 33-36)

Oh, how great are God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! **How impossible it is for us to understand His decisions and His ways!**...For who can know the LORD's thoughts? Who knows enough to give Him advice? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?...**For everything comes from Him and exists by His power and is intended for His glory.** All glory to Him forever! Amen. (vv. 33-36, NLT/NIV)

● POINT: Faith honors God since His WAYS ARE UNSEARCHABLE

## IV. WHAT DOES GOD'S FAITHFULNESS MEANS TO US?

It means I can absolutely depend on God to always...

1. Keep HIS WORD

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for **He who promised is faithful.** Heb. 10:23

2. Keep ME SAVED and GROWING

I am sure that God, who **began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished** on that day when Christ Jesus comes back. Phil. 1:6 (NLT)

3. PROTECT and STRENGTHEN me.

But the **Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.** 2 Thess. 3:3

4. Help me when I'm TEMPTED & when I'm TRIED

Because He Himself suffered when **He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.** Heb. 2:18

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. **God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out** so that you can stand up under it. 1 Cor. 10:13

5. FORGIVE ME when I SIN

If we confess our sins, **He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** 1 Jn. 1:9

(Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All Rights Reserved.)

(Authors of source material for Today's Message: William Barclay, Donald Barnhouse, James M. Boice, F. F. Bruce, Robert Haldane, Charles Hodge, John MacArthur, John Murray, JR. C. Sproul, John Stott, Charles Swindoll, Rick Warren, Warren Wiersbe)

### HOW TO HAVE A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

**Admit...**that I am a sinner and need God's forgiveness Rom. 3:23

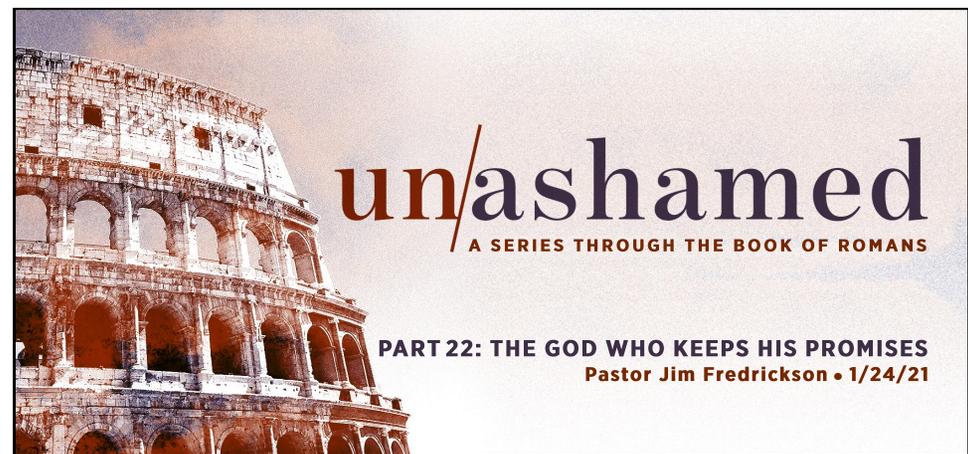
**Repent...**Turn away from my sins and turn to God. Acts 3:19; Rom. 6:11-13, 23

**Believe...**that Jesus died on the cross for me and showed He was God by coming back to life again. 1 Cor. 15:2-4; Rom. 3:33, 10:9, 5:8; Col. 2:14

**Receive...**Jesus into my life as my new Boss. John 1:12; Rom. 12:2

- If you're willing to take these steps, sincerely pray this prayer in your heart:

"Dear God, I know You love me. I believe You sent Your Son, Jesus, to die for my sins and that He rose from the dead. I'm sorry I've lived for myself and I ask for Your forgiveness for all my sins. I want You to be the Boss of my life and live the way You want me to. Amen."



ROMANS 11:1-36

## I. OVERVIEW OF ROMANS 9-11

### Chapter 9

Israel's Past

Selection

God's Sovereignty

### Chapter 10

Israel's Present

Rejection

God's Fairness

### Chapter 11

Israel's Future

Restoration

God's Faithfulness

## II. TWO EVIDENCES OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS TO ISRAEL

### 1. Israel's unbelief and rejection is only PARTIAL

NOT COMPLETE (vv.1-10)

I ask, then, **has God rejected His own people, the nation of Israel? Of course not!** (v. 1a, NLT)

2 Proofs:

#### 1. PAUL HIMSELF (v. 1b)

#### 2. A REMNANT (cf. Rom. 9:27)

So too, at the present time **there is a remnant chosen by grace. But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.** (vv. 5-6, ESV)

- POINT: God's choice of anyone is ONLY BY GRACE

So **this is the situation:** Most of the people of Israel have not found the favor of God they are looking for so earnestly. **A few have—the ones God has chosen—but the hearts of the rest were hardened.** (v. 7, NLT)