

# Rejected?

Romans 11:1-16

## Introduction

### I The Evidence That God Has Not Rejected Israel

- A. The **conversion** of Paul
  1. He was an Israelite - Acts 22:2-4
  2. He was a descendant of Abraham - 2 Cor 11:22
  3. He was from the tribe of Benjamin - Phil 3:5-6
- B. The **election** and foreknowledge of God - 1 Pet 1:1-2
- C. The **remnant** principle in the OT and NT
  1. The remnant of 7,000 during Elijah's day - 1 Kings 19
  2. The remnant of believers in Paul's day - Rom 9:27
    - a. Chosen by **grace**, not by works - 1 Tim 1:9; Eph 2:8-9

### II The Explanation of Israel's Rejection of Messiah

- A. They did not obtain **salvation**
  1. Even though they sought it earnestly - Rom 9:31-33
    - a. But the elect remnant did - Rom 9:30
- B. They were **hardened** by God - Rom 9:17-18
  1. He gave them a spirit of stupor - Is 29:10
  2. He gave them eyes that could not see - Ezek 12:1-2
  3. He gave them ears that could not hear - Is 6:9-10
- C. They were "**cursed**" as enemies of the Messiah
  1. May their table become a snare and a trap - Ps 69:22-23
    - a. A stumbling block for them
    - b. A retribution for them
  2. May their eyes be darkened so that they can't see
  3. May their backs be bent forever

### III The Consequence of Israel's Rejection of Messiah

- A. They have not stumbled so as to fall beyond **recovery**
- B. Their transgression against Messiah has resulted in:
  1. **Salvation** for the Gentiles - Acts 13:46-47
    - a. To make Israel **envious** - Deut 32:21
  2. Spiritual **wealth** for the Gentile world - Col 1:26-27
    - a. To heighten the fullness of Israel's salvation

### IV The Consequence of The Gentile's Reception of Messiah

- A. The Gentiles are a source of boasting for Paul
  1. In order to arouse Israel to **envy** - Rom 10:19; 11:11
  2. In order to **save** some of the Jews - 1 Tim 4:15-16
- B. The Gentile's reconciliation is a product of Israel's rejection
  1. Israel's acceptance will be like **life** from the dead
  2. Israel's remnant makes the whole nation **holy** - 1 Cor 7:14
    - a. The firstfruits of the grain harvest - Num 15:17-21
    - b. The root of a tree - Matt 3:10

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following questions:

1. Have you ever felt rejected by God? What were the circumstances? Do you still feel rejected? Why/why not?
2. Paul's own conversion gave him hope for his own people, the nation of Israel. How does your personal conversion to Christ give you confidence that He can save anyone?
3. In Romans 11:5-6 Paul emphasizes that salvation is the result of God's grace. Is there an area in your life where you are still striving, like the Jews, to be good enough to merit God's favor? What does this kind of striving produce?
4. Have you ever hardened your heart to God? What happened? Is there any area in your life where you are currently hard toward God? Are you willing to soften your heart today?
5. One of God's objectives in saving the Gentiles was to arouse the Jews to envy and emulation. Does your relationship with the Lord arouse envy and jealousy in the lives of unbelievers? If not, what is preventing your life from drawing people to Jesus?
6. Take a moment to pray for the salvation of the nation of Israel and unbelieving friends and family who have yet to receive the Gift of Life. Humbly thank Him for your own salvation.

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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