

First Southern Baptist Church - May 3, 2023
Through Their Fall Salvation has Come - Romans 11:1-21

Introduction:

1. So what about the Jews?
 - in 9:1ff - concerned
 - in 10:1ff - they might be saved
 - How ARE we saved anyway?
 - in 11:1ff - what about these Jews? Has God just cast them away?
 - Does this mean that God is no longer concerned about the Jews?
2. Analogy of the Olive Tree, branches and roots -gives us the relationship of Jews to Gentiles

I. Has God Cast Away the Jews? (1-10)

1. Have they been cast aside? (1)
 - A. God forbid!
 - B. After all, I'm an Israelite
 - a real Israelite, from the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin
 - locates himself in the genealogical tree of Israel
2. God has not cast them away (2)
 - A. After all these are the people His people
 - B. Can you not remember that the prophet Elijah said... they have killed the prophets... (they are corrupt) (2-4)
 - but God said, there is a "remnant"
 - seven thousand who've not bowed their knee
3. Even so, now there is a remnant (5)
 - A. At this present time there is a remnant
 - B. By grace
 - C. Defines "grace" (6)
 - 1) if it were works it would not be any more grace
 - 2) "grace" is comparable to "faith" receiving salvation in chapters 9-10
4. What does this mean then? (7)
 - A. Israel has not obtained that which is sought for
 - B. But election has obtained it, and the rest were "blinded" (hardened)
 - C. This was "written" of - He gave them "slumber" (8)
 - remember notes from chapter 9 - "hardened" Pharaoh's heart after he hardened his own heart
 - 2 Thess - He blinded after they did not receive Christ
 - quotes from Isaiah 29:10
5. Quotes Isaiah at verse 8
Quotes David at verse 9 (at Ps 69:22-23)
 - A. Let their table be a snare
 - they were a partaker at the Lord's "table" which turned out to be a real snare... -they feel they are better than others... after all, they belong to God
 - B. Let their eyes be darkened (10)
 - C. Bow down their back always - metaphor for a slave

*so, by quoting the Old Testament Paul shows that this was in the plan of God all along

II. Have they Forever Stumbled? (11-21)

1. God forbid (11)
 - A. They have fallen, that others may be included in
 - B. The Gentiles have come in to provoke them to jealousy
 - C. Note the analogy of “stumbling” and “falling” -
-they have “stumbled” - but they have not “fallen”
2. Now if their fall works out to the good of the Gentiles... how much more will be their “fulness” (12)
-their return to the fold
3. **Remember he speaks of a nation... falling away... but not all the nation
-today, when some look at these verses they say... well, God must have just hardened some - that’s why they don’t receive the word
-he speaks of a nation... and a remnant from that nation... to understand this passage as individuals, does not make sense
4. I speak to you Gentiles (13)
 - A. After all I am the apostle to the Gentiles
 - B. By being your apostle... I am provoking them which are “my” flesh (14)
-the end being “saving” some
 - C. **If** the casting them away be reconciling the world (15) - “**If, Then**”
 - 1) **then**, what will their receiving back mean?
 - 2) **then**, what will the rest of the “lump” be? (16)
*don’t miss the contrast here...
 - A) **if** the first fruit be holy, the lump is also holy
 - B) **if** the root is holy, then the branches will be holy
 - C) **if** some of the branches are broken off - **then** you as a wild branch can be grafted in (17)
 - D. **Two** metaphors:
 - 1) first **grain harvest** was presented as a sacrifice of the whole to the Lord
 - 2) the **root** sustains the fruit (Israel is the root)
 - E. So you as Gentiles don’t boast against the Olive Tree - the roots - you were grafted in (18)
-the branches don’t sustain the root but the other way around
-in other words... don’t get proud - if He did not spare the native branches, will He spare you?
-if we Gentiles, come from the root of the Israelites... what does that do to our pride?
-what a great analogy of our legacy/ heritage... or “roots” - the roots of the Judeo- Christian faith
 - F. You can say the branches are broken off, so I might be grafted in (19)
-not the original tree, but they knew the analogy of a “graft”
-don’t miss the image of “pruning” - similar to removing a “candlestick” - the end result is more fruit
 - G. How so... (20)

1) by unbelief, they were broken off

2) by belief, you were grafted in

*election obviously doesn't mean they have no say so in the issue

H. So... don't be "high minded" (proud) but fear

1) because, if God spared not his own "branches" - He will not spare you
either (21)

2) "take heed" lest He spare not you

I. Verse 21 is key... they are broken off, because of unbelief

-so, not every Jew that is one in flesh is one in faith