

“Israel’s Rejection and Restoration”

A Study of the Book of Romans

Pastor Tim Allen

Key Truth: God uses his grace strategically both to open the door of salvation to the Gentiles and to return salvation to Israel.

In these verses we see a cycle of salvation, first through Israel’s rejection of the gospel, opening the door for the gentiles being saved. Second, because of the salvation of the Gentiles, God then makes the Israelites jealous so that they will want what the Gentiles have. This is God’s plan and purpose. He’s never had it in his mind simply to throw away his people like some broken piece of furniture, kicked to the curb. Instead, he worked out a plan to bring both Jews and Gentiles together in Christ through stumbling and jealousy.

DISCUSS

Read **Romans 11:7-16** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled “Israel’s Rejection and Restoration.”

DIG IN

1. Salvation through Stumbling (Romans 11:7-11a)

In what ways did Israel stumble either in the Old or New Testaments?

How did Israel’s stumbling bring salvation to the Gentiles?

In what ways were the Israelites’ hearts hardened (see Romans 11:8)?

In what ways was unbelieving Israel like the unbelieving pagans of Romans 1:21? How did the blindness and hardness of heart of Israel manifest itself in Paul’s day? Our day?

What was the purpose for Israel’s stumbling (see Romans 11:11)? Why was that important to God’s plan to save both Jews and Gentiles?

2. Salvation through Jealousy (Romans 11:11b-16)

In what ways is jealousy used to get someone’s attention? In what ways can that be an effective tool? How might that be harmful?

Why would God want to make Israel jealous?

What is the analogy that Paul makes in verse 16? What does this have to do with the life of faith?

In what ways do Gentile Christians support God’s plan for saving Israel? What can we do today to support this effort?

DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?