

## Romans 11 Less Is More, More is Morer

1/17/10 - The Exchange

- I. Catch up
  - A. Running review
  - B. 9 Israel's Predestination, 10 free will, 11 both
  - C. 9 Israel's past, 10 present, 11 future
  - D. All three about salvation by grace through faith on Jesus, J or G.
- II. 11:1-10 Predestination and Past
  - A. 11:1 Obv. God has rejected Israel because Paul is a Jew. Duh.
  - B. 11:2-4 If any people group deserved to be abandoned, it's them
    - 1. One of God's own prophets said, "Nuke 'em!"
    - 2. Even God felt this way once. Exodus 32:7-14.
  - C. 11:5 Even so, God had a plan (predestination) and promises (faith).
  - D. 11:6 Election = grace. Grace ≠ works, Election ≠ works.
  - E. 11:7-10 There are some who are going to get it and some who are not. Don't miss Paul's point because of the possible implications.
  - F. His points are
    - 1. God has not abandoned His chosen people Israel.
    - 2. There is a remnant being preserved even today for the future.
- III. 11:11-24 Free will and present
  - A. 11:11-15 Again, God uses reverse psychology. If what seem bad for Israel is good for the rest of us, how much more will good for them be for the rest of us? Keep in mind scope, Gentiledom, not them individually.
  - B. 11:16-18 Some of the gentiles wanted to believe that God had uprooted the whole tree and started over. Nope. John 15:1-8.
  - C. 11:19-21 Remember what you are and how you stand. Don't fear if you stand by faith, fear if you stand by works or false assumptions. It's too easy to forget the gospel.
  - D. 11:22
    - 1. consider - know, understand, perceive. Take a step back and get a grip on this.
    - 2. goodness - seen this before in 2:4. Not the good actions but the innate goodness, integrity, kindness, gentleness. That which has a mellowing effect. Doves and serpents. Mellows the severity of God.
    - 3. severity - to cut off, continuing the tree ill.
    - 4. Is this a threat of loss of salvation? No, because it doesn't depend on us. Again, scope. Individual application principle, yes, but not at expense of context. Big picture talk. Consider what God has done in the past and let that influence your life today.
  - E. 11:23-24 God can easily restore His people.
- IV. 11:25-36 Future
  - A. 11:25-27
    - 1. mystery - something hidden until now.
    - 2. fullness - the total amount so that a thing is full
    - 3. It's as though God pushed pause on His use of Israel as His primary agent in the world and used the Church. A day will come when He switches back to Israel.

4. Rapture, revival of Jews globally, future kingdom and land as promised.
- B. 11:28-29
1. Referring back to less is more. Also faithfulness to promises. Again, primary context, but some application for us today.
  2. irrevocable - has more to do with the why than the verb. It means "without regret". God does not regret the giving of His gifts and those He has called. Therefore they are irrevocable.
  3. What are some promises for us (aud. part.)?
  4. Recall some promises for Israel, that is the context point.
- C. 11:30-32 The circle of salvation. Wait, what? Even Paul lost himself which leads to next verses.
- D. 11:33-36 Sort of speaks for itself.
1. We desperately want to know they why's and the how's of things. I think God put that in us so that we would seek Him. But to what end?
  2. To see God's righteousness, power, glory, our need for Him, His love for us, His provision for us even in our lack, and to declare this to the world.
  3. Vamp on Haiti. We can get hung up on scale, but in the end God wants the same thing; relationship.
- V. Wrap up
- A. The real application of this is coming in the next chapter, read ahead.
  - B. God has not abandoned His chosen people Israel.
  - C. There is a remnant being preserved even today for the future.
  - D. For now, He is using us. Do you have relationship?
    1. Is your walk provoking others to jealousy? (not neener neener)
    2. Are you feeding off of the root and bearing fruit?
    3. Are you walking in the gifts and calling of God that are given without regret?