

## ROMANS 11

### The Two Olive Trees.

acts 13:44-46

Paul's critics claimed he was teaching God's utter rejection of Jews, & His word had come to naught, just because some Jews were rejected bec. of unbelief. They seemed to think they should be accepted as righteous regardless of unbelief, just bec. they were descended from Abr. Paul explains: that this is not true, that he has not utterly rejected the Jews as individuals. The fact: that God rejected Jews as nation does not prevent Jews as individuals from being saved.

In Vs. 1 he uses himself as example of this. If God had cast them off bec. they were Isr. Paul would not have been hms servant. They broke themselves off bec. they rejected Chr.

V 2- FOREKNEW - Formerly chose - to be famil: thro which Chhst to come. Bef. Christ, descent from Abr., thro Jacob was ground of acceptance. After Christ gave commission, ground of acceptance changed, to faith.

Paul also uses Elijah as ex. that all Jews not r ejected. In his day, Jews had thrown down God's altar, killed prophets, & worshipped Baal. Yet God acc. Elijah & 7000 others.

In Vs. 1, what charge did Paul deny? (God had rejected all Jews)

Why did Paul use the illustration of Elijah? To show that God will not cast away (V 2)

those who obey and worship him aright. V4.

Who was Baal? Principal god of Phenicians, represented sun. Jezebel, wife of Ahab, was Phenician, and sought to supplant worship of God with that of Baal.

V 5- Paul assures them that it was not as bad as outward appearances indicated. At the time of writing, there was a remnant of Israel that had accepted the grace of God offered in Christ, & were chosen of him, to be a part of his elect. Obedience precedes election of individual. Grace of God prompted the election of CLASS OF INDIVIDUALS.

Old Disp.:

Fleshly Israel chosen - Fleshly birth.

New Disp.:

Spiritual Israel chosen - Spiritual birth

John 3:5 (water & spirit)

~~xxxx~~ How many Jews then will be saved?

V 6- Paul points out that no amt. of work will blot out sins already committed. Forgiveness is matter of grace, regardless of how many conditions one must fulfill in order to be forgiven. There is no grace when a man merits justification.

2 kinds of works mentioned in N.T., and failure to recognize distinction accounts for much misunderstanding.

1. Works of Jewish law, or works by which man attempts to merit Justification.
2. Commands of God which man obeys, to perfect his faith, or conditions of salvation by grace.

Eph. 2:8-10 gives picture of both kinds of works, those that allow of boasting, & obedience to commands of God.

Command to be baptized is certainly not work that would merit salvation, or would allow boasting. A simple, almost foolish thing. (1 Cor. 1:27-29; 3:19) (1 Cor. 1:21)

Can any sinner MERIT salvation?

V 7- Beg. with v. 7 Paul sums up his argument concerning God's dealings with Israel.

● Only a remnant had sought forgiveness thro Christ. Rest were hardened, but this condition brought on themselves. (Matt 13:14, 15.) as was election.

● Sought to obtain righteousness thro Law, obtained only by becoming one of ELECT.

2. Pet. 1:10. *We determine our election*  
Hardened as Pharaoh was, stubbornness, not hearing & obeying word of God. Rom 1:24-26.

● Hardened: blinded. Why?

V 9-10

What will be the condition of those who are hardened, or blinded, to Christ?

That which is intended to be for their good (table) will become snare & trap.

Meaning seems to be that their temporal joys would lead them away from God, & produce indifference to spiritual interests.

V 11- Stumble - err, <sup>sin</sup> may later recover himself,

● Fall - To fall so that one cannot recover himself, be cast off permanently, never return to God.

By fall of Jews; Gentiles came to know God.

● As result of fall & captivity, faithful ones carried to captivity, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach & abednego, Ezra, Nehemiah, etc. They associated with kings & became counselors & advisors. Taught knowledge of God, prepared Gentiles to rec. Christ.

V 12- Fall is riches of world- Dispersion of Jews among Gentiles greatly helped spread gospel when Christ came. (pentecost)

If their fall resulted in so much good,  
how much more will their return to God?  
If Jews, as people, ever converted to Christ  
they will be well fitted to spread truth.  
Scattered in all nations. }  
Speak all languages.

Have ardor & zeal, as 12 apostles.

*acts 13:46 Jews rejected Christ - Rom. 8:28*

V.13- Magnify mine OFFICE (ministry)-

May not magnify SELF. His ministry to  
Gentiles, hoping to stir Jews to emulation.  
THAT HE MIGHT SAVE SOME - only <sup>the</sup> instrument of  
salvation.

V14 -

15- Now Jews cast away, if they ever return,  
it will be like rec. them from dead.

*acts 13:46 Be grateful Gentiles rec'd gospel*

V 16- First fruits- refers to requirement  
to offer 1st fruits of harvest to God before  
any could be eaten by man. ("And ye shall  
eat neither bread, nor parched grain, nor  
fresh ears, until this selfsame day, until  
ye have brought the oblation of your God;  
it is a statute forever throuout your gener-  
ations in all your dwellings.") Unclean until

1st offered to God. *First give ourselves*

*1st fruits - Circumcision Cor. 3:5  
does not apply now - acts 15:20 only*

First fruits of gospel were on Pentecost,  
Jews. As they were accepted, all Israel  
will be if they turn to Christ.

Abr., Isaac, & Jacob &

ROOT - ~~Christ, branch & offspring of David~~

As ~~RHODE~~ is accept. to God, branches will be  
if they believe on him.

V 17- Two Olive trees. Who is the natural  
(cultivated) olive tree? Jews. Branches  
broken off bec. of unbelief.  
Gentiles, wild olive tree.

Grafted in thro faith in Christ. Not all branches broken off. Those who had faith in Christ continued as branches.

V 18- GLORY NOT- Exhortation to Gentiles not to boast against the natural branches, Jews. Have you seen Christians scorn Jews bec. they donot accept Christ, yet they donot live up to His teaching? Warning to them. Should remember that scheme of redemption had foundation in Jewish economy. Abr. Father of faithful, Christ a Jew, apostles & first teachers, Jews, Bible written by Jews.

V 19 - why were branches broken off? Room for Jews & Gentiles

V 20- Be not high-minded, but fear. Heb. 3:12  
1 Cor. 10:12.

God spared not natural branches in unbelief, will not spare Gentiles in unbelief.

V 22- God is noted for two qualities, apparently contradictory. goodness, severity  
Belief or unbelief, and continuing in it, is condition of feeling manifested on part of God

23- <sup>people can change</sup> Hope is held out to Jews that they may change their relationship with God. Proof that "election" & "choosing" is related to man's actions. not arbitrary on part of God  
"if"

V 24- Grafting Jews back into tree would not be any harder than grafting wild branch in. easier

V 25 - Paul would not have Gentiles ignorant of fact that Gentiles had gospel preached to them as result of Jews rejection. <sup>Acts 13:46</sup>

FULLNESS OF GENTILES- Difficult to answer when this refers to. All agree that gospel

should be preached to all Gentiles, & they would have equal opportunities with Jews.

*Luke 21:24*

V 26- "SO ALL ISRAEL SHALL BE SAVED"-  
SO in like manner. Jews will be saved in exactly same manner Gentiles were, - individually. "Individually" is key to Romans 11. Jews & Gentiles, wild & natural olive branches, all are saved by obeying, as individuals. No one is saved or rejected bec. he is part of a particular nation.

27- When will God take away sins of people? When they accept Christ, the deliverer that shall come out of Zion. (v 26)

28- ENEMIES FOR YOUR SAKE- Fact that Jews were enemies to gospel caused Gentiles to be brought in.

TOUCHING THE ELECTION- so far as their fathers and the nation being selected or chosen to be God's peculiar people.

THEY ARE BELOVED - God still has an interest in them & will not forget the promises made to the fathers (See next verse)

29- Even tho Jews sinned & rebelled against God, He did not repent of His promise to send the Messiah thro them. Explains V 28.

*Tribe of Judah Lk 3:33*

30- OBTAINED MERCY BY (JEWS') DISOBEDIENCE- Consequence of Jews' rejecting gospel led to its being preached & rec'd. by Gentiles, thus obtained mercy.

31- Now Jews are disobedient, cases reversed. (Gentiles were formerly disobedient) Reception by Gentiles would cause Jews to become

jealous & lead them to obey it. Gospel came from Jews to Gentiles, now it must go from Gentiles to Jews.

32- "Concluded all in unbelief, that mercy might be shown to all."

*guilty - J. & G.*

Mercy is favor to undeserving. ?  
Could not be shown to Jews & Gentiles until it was before proved that they were guilty.

Does not mean that ALL will be saved, but that all will be undeserving, ~~of~~ & will be saved by mercy.

~~This is the rest of the chapter~~  
Rest of chapter is praise of God and his greatness.

V 35 emphasizes that all that we receive from God is of His grace, not to repay favors of man.

... of ...  
... of ...  
... of ...

... " ...  
... " ...  
... in favor of ...  
... to ...  
... that ...  
... will be ...

...  
... of ...  
... that ...  
... of ...