

"But as for Israel He says, 'All the day long I have stretched out My hands to a disobedient and obstinate people." Rom. 10:21

God has not rejected the Jewish people:

1. PAUL'S PERSONAL TESTIMONY. Vs. 1

"I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be! I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin."

"It is the Lord who provides the sun to light the day and the moon and stars to light the night, and who stirs the sea into roaring waves. His name is the Lord of Heaven's Armies, and this is what he says: 'I am as likely to reject my people Israel as I am to abolish the laws of nature!' This is what the Lord says: 'Just as the heavens cannot be measured and the foundations of the earth cannot be explored, so I will not consider casting them away for the evil they have done. I, the Lord, have spoken!" Jer. 31:35-36 (NLT)

2. THE JEWISH *REMNANT*. Vs. 2-5

"God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? 'Lord, they have killed Thy prophets, they have torn down Thine altars, and I alone am left, and they are seeking my life." vs. 2-3

"But what is the divine response to him? 'I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.' In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice." vs. 4-5

3. THE *GRACE* OF GOD. Vs. 6-10

"But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is not longer grace." vs. 6

"For what does the Scripture say? And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Rom. 4:3

"Just as David also speaks of the blessing upon the man to whom God reckons righteousness apart from works: 'Blessed are those whose lawless deeds have been forgiven, and whose sins have been covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not take into account." Rom. 4:6-8

"What then? That which Israel is seeking for, it has not obtained, but those who were chosen obtained it, and the rest were hardened; just as it is written, 'God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes to see not and ears to hear not, down to this very day.' And David says, 'Let their table become a snare and a trap, and a stumbling block and a retribution to them. Let their eyes be darkened to see not, and bend their backs forever." vs. 7-10

"...lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fulness of the Gentiles has come in." Rom. 11:25

4. GOD'S PLAN. Vs. 11-15

"I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous. Now if their transgression be riches for the world and their failure be riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!" vs. 11-12

"But I am speaking to you who are Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle of Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, if somehow I might move to jealousy my fellow countrymen and save some of them. For if their rejection be the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?" vs. 13-15

"And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus." Rev. 12:17

APPLICATION FOR ME

- *Ever felt rejected?
- "All that the Father gives to Me shall come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out." John 6:37
- *Doubting God's promised blessings for you? "...where sin increased, grace abounded all the more." Rom. 6:20
- *Failures are Not Final.
- *God has always had a believing remnant and a blinded majority.

*Each of us needs to beware of growing callous.

"Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. You must warn each other every day, while it is still 'today,' so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God." Heb. 3:12-13 (NLT)

