

Romans: The Gospel

A Remnant

Romans 11:1-10, 1st Kings 18:1-18

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| <p>:1</p> <p>Because of Israel's rejection Is it God who rejected them? Is the rejection permanent?</p> <p>Apotheo - refuse, cast away</p> <p><i>Movie Cast Away, refuse/refuse trash So disgusting, offended, refused</i></p> <p>Is this what God has done with his people? Promise to Abraham, to David? Now thrown away?</p> <p>Again, certainly not! <u>Not at all who God is!</u></p> | <p>The proof? Paul is saved! He's totally Jewish! Remember, Jew of Jews!</p> <p>Remember, Ethnic group, geopolitical nation and bride</p> <p>Individuals within a nation rejected being God's bride</p> <p><i>Bation left to wander until Tribulation</i></p> <p>God is not done saving <u>individuals</u> Salvation is a personal work</p> <p>Building a church out of anyone and everyone who would accept Jew or Gentile</p> |
| <p>:2-4</p> <p>Foreknowledge - God knows what everyone will choose, before they choose it</p> <p>But like last time, continues to stretch out his hand to those against him</p> | <p>Elijah, a prophet of God in Israel Highly esteemed by all the religious, rabbis, etc.</p> <p>Spoke against Israel as a people and a nation in his day!</p> <p><i>Oh the joy of being a prophet - distressed, rejected, a "negative" message to a <u>contrary people!</u></i></p> |
| <p>Turn to 1st Kings 1:1-18</p> <p>:1-8 a <u>political</u> slaughter of those who spoke God's word</p> | <p>Ahab and Jezebel, extremely wicked, worshipped false gods</p> <p>Yet, ruled over God's <u>land</u> and <u>people</u></p> |

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| <p>Why did Jezebel send a letter? To scare him!</p> <p>Why didn't she send a soldier right then?</p> <p><i>Firefighter friend</i></p> | <p>Elijah, who had called down fire...now running, afraid</p> <p>Prayed that he would die ... Jonah</p> <p><u>A prophet's emotional distress</u></p> |
| <p>Baked on coals... Did the angel have a little fire going?</p> <p>Heb 13:2 - Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so [doing] some have unwittingly entertained angels.</p> <p><i>Jesus, 2 angels and Abram...ate</i></p> | <p>The reality of the spiritual world</p> <p>Don't discount the supernatural and the natural working together</p> <p><u>We're stuck in the natural, but the supernatural dimension has access to ours</u></p> |
| <p>:9-10</p> <p>God asks, What are you doing here, Elijah?</p> <p>He knew, like in the Garden</p> <p>I love how God sent angels to minister to Elijah in his distress, <u>strengthening him before he challenged him spiritually</u></p> <p>I alone am left...</p> <p>Sometimes it feels like that. To be very vexed by the world. <i>Lot in Sodom</i></p> <p>To be vexed in the church - feeling like there's no one genuinely seeking God</p> <p><u>But, it's not true!</u></p> | <p>:11-18</p> <p>God asks him the same thing again,</p> <p><u>Get back in the game, Elijah!</u> Stop sitting on the sidelines!</p> <p>You're sidelining yourself out of fear and frustration</p> <p>But God has more for you to do And others for you to minister with!</p> <p>A big lie of the enemy? That you're alone!</p> <p><u>Maybe you're alone because you're making yourself alone</u></p> <p>You don't have to be. Look for the fellowship of others seeking God.</p> |

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| <p>Elijah's mission? Anoint a new king. Talk about treason!</p> <p>In fact, you're <u>so</u> not alone, there's 7,000 others Go find them, Go inspire them.</p> | <p>And a successor... Elisha Elisha! God had even a successor lined up</p> <p>The mission of God would not end with Elijah</p> |
| <p><i>Back to Romans</i></p> <p>Paul's day: Israel so wicked they rejected one greater than Elijah - Jesus</p> | <p>Yet, God was not done with them. There were still others turning to Jesus.</p> <p><i>Remember, the early church was mostly Jews!</i></p> |
| <p>:5-6</p> <p>Even in Paul's time...there was a remnant</p> <p><i>Remember elementary division, remainders?</i> $7 / 2 = 3 r 1$</p> <p>Matthew 14:19-20 - Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained.</p> <p><i>Different word, but I can't help but think the picture remains</i></p> | <p><i>12 baskets of a remnant, 12 tribes of a remnant, 144k Rev 7</i></p> <p><i>God is not done with Israel, and although He is working through the church now, he'll keep working if it only saves a remnant of his people</i></p> <p>God was beginning to divide the world into two new factions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not Jews and Gentiles ● Believers and unbelievers ● Sons of light and sons of darkness <p>And there would be a remainder of Jews included</p> <p>And what would be the driving factor? How would they be a part of that?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not their bloodline ● Not their nationality ● Not what they'd done <p>By grace alone.</p> |

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| <p>Paul was a blaspheming murderer His qualifications didn't make him Apostle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God's grace did • God's calling • God's election <p>2Pe 1:10a - Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make <u>your</u> call and election sure...</p> <p>Do you know God's call on your life?</p> <p>Whether you're a Christian or not Whether you're following Jesus or not Whether you know the call or not</p> <p>God has a plan for you...if you'll take it</p> | <p>Yet God knows what we'll choose.</p> <p><u>God calls us regardless.</u></p> <p>He's voted for us to be in heaven, so-to-speak But we have to respond on our own accord</p> <p>I believe everyone is called. Everyone was elected. In God's perfect will.</p> <p>But because he knows everyone <i>won't</i> choose him</p> <p>He allows some to reject their election And others to accept their election</p> <p>Acceptance is only through grace.</p> |
| <p>We didn't earn it, didn't change God's mind. Weren't good little boys and girls gaining approval</p> <p>Remember mercy and grace? Not getting punished? Getting ice cream?</p> | <p>And remember, how many times did you reject God before you accepted His grace? That's what the acceptance is of...His grace To call you To elect you To know you To love you</p> |
| <p>Because if it's not based on God's love It's not grace</p> <p>It's your work to get paid for And that's NOT the Gospel Not good news</p> <p>God will work through a remnant</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A little piece • A few thousand Jews out of many in Elisha's day • A few Jews turning to Jesus at the birth of the church • A small, weak church in the last days (Rev 3:7-13, <i>Philadelphia</i>) • A small group of Jewish believers in the great Tribulation, 144k |

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Israel has not obtained what it seeks

Stanley Cup - every hockey player wants their name on the cup. Few get it. Only the best get there. Very hard.

Israel was trying to obtain favor (grace) with God through:

- works
- obedience
- ethnic and national identity

It's what the world wants now - to inherit wealth, success power, not by merit but by birthright of the approved race

God wanted Israel to have his favor!

But they wanted it their way - they rejected his way...

Maybe they really didn't want his favor

So who gets God's favor? The elect!

- The chosen bride, the church
- Not the chosen people, nation, the Jews
- Birthright has no place in God's real blessing!

His real blessing comes through His firstborn Not our birthrights

And what for the rest? Jew and Gentile rejection? Blindness

Jhn 12:31-43 - "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all [peoples] to Myself." This He said, signifying by what death He would die. The people answered Him, "We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how [can] You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this Son of Man?" Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. **Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. "While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."** These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them. But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: "Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?" Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again: "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with [their] eyes, Lest they should understand with [their] hearts and turn, So that I should heal them." These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him. Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess [Him], lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

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| <p>Matthew 15:14 - "Let them [The Pharisees] alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch."</p> | <p>The spiritually blind are so blind they think they can see and take others with them</p> <p>And spiritually blind people follow other blind people and don't even know it</p> |
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| <p>:8-10</p> <p><u>God</u> gave them a spirit of stupor (slumber, insensibility) "an attitude of deadness towards spiritual things." - Morris</p> <p>Partly so they wouldn't find what they were looking for in the wrong places</p> <p>Garden, kicked out, to prevent eating from the tree of life while under eternal death</p> <p>Their table? The law, the temple, the ordinances, the history, the land, the culture, the heritage...feasting from earthly things</p> <p>Satisfied with so much less... Missing the very heavenly feast they represented - pointed to!</p> <p><i>"The Jews of Paul's day were so secure in their idea of being the chosen people that the very idea became the thing that ruined them." DG</i></p> <p>We easily fall into the same trap! (Not even talking about sinful things!)</p> | <p>Looking to church, tradition, preferences, good things, God things</p> <p><u>But missing what they're really all about - Jesus!</u> relationship and favor with Him by His grace Heaven to come, not the kingdom now</p> <p>Don't let your eyes be darkened by earthly things</p> <p><u>By playing around with heaven</u> <u>Having one foot in and one foot out</u></p> <p>You have the light Let it make you into a son of light</p> <p>Stop retreating into the darkness Playing with Christianity There are more real Christians out there - <u>Be one</u> Don't let the lukewarm turn you off to the grace of God</p> <p>Don't let other's failures or blindness be your excuse to stay away from the feast and God's call on your life!</p> <p><i>I think God may prefer the remnant...who choose despite being leftover</i></p> |
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