The Righteousness of God proven through Messiah, King Jesus

Chapters 1-11 – God's righteousness is on trial:

1)Is He really fixing life?2)Has He done what He said He would do?

- If Israel isn't believing in Messiah Jesus in Mass then what gives?
- What was on God's mind when it came to Israel & the history of humanity?

You have misunderstood what God promised:

> There is an "Israel" and an "Israel", "children" and "seed"

Do not mistake salvation FOR Israel with Israel's ROLE in salvation history

God has always chosen to act thru a portion of Abraham's offspring to save mankind

Ethnic Israel like the Gentile world is sinful & thus guilty before God & if God left Israel & salvations history to itself not only would they have ceased to exist but the promises of God along with them to reach the world

Covers the Patriarchs thru the Exodus to the Exile of Judah

God has done what He always promised He would do in Deut. 30:

a)IF Israel walked away from God, they would be exiled

b)But after exile, He would restore "Israel" enabling them to keep Torah in a new way

Israel of the FLESH never grasped this

1) They missed how God had been trustworthy all along to fix life

2) And they missed how He had come thru on what He promised

- That Torah never could produce life
- That relationship with God was always thru faith
- The covenant family God was building always meant Gentiles too

And who is the "RENEWED ISRAEL" that God has been faithful to restore?

Children of Faith – Both Jew & Gentile

<u>Main POINT</u> = The Gentiles are sharing Israel's blessing and it is designed to make them jealous and thus draw them to salvation

<u>Romans 11:14</u> in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them.

<u>Romans 11:25-26a</u> Lest you be wise in your own conceits, I want you to understand this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved

So what has Paul argued so far?

1.He has addressed the renewal of the covenant that God made with Abraham

2.He has defined this covenant family by <u>faith</u> (i.e. not race, privilege, works)

3.He has shown that not all descendants of Israel are children of the promise...rather children of faith

4.And He has listed Jesus the Messiah as the crowning privilege above all else with Israel

Paul introduces this next section with two main questions:

1.Romans 11:1 - Has God forsaken His people (ethnic Israel)? i.e. can any ethnic Jews be saved simply because of their heritage?

His answer is an emphatic NO!

2.Romans 11:11 - Has ethnic Israel stumbled so as to fall? i.e. can any MORE ethnic Jews be saved?

His answer is an emphatic YES!

1.Has God forsaken His people (ethnic Israel)? i.e. can any ethnic Jews be saved? Romans 11:1-2a

Ethnic Israel looks like it has basically completely failed God

a)They <u>sin</u> like pagans

b)On top of that chapter 2 says they are morally judgmental

*c)*Then to top all that off they <u>failed in their Divine role or calling</u> to reach the world

d)And worst of all they <u>failed in mass to believe in their long awaited</u> <u>Messiah</u>

e)And NOW Gentiles are coming in

Romans 11:1-2a

Romans 9:27 And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: "Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, <u>only a</u> <u>remnant</u> of them will be saved,

I Sam. 12:22 "God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew" <u>Background on verse:</u>

1.Samuel is promising them that he will never stop interceding for Israel despite their utter sin

2. And at the time God had provided a King in Saul

Romans 11:2b-6

There is a small remnant Paul says, that he himself now belongs to, that believed on Jesus, and it happened just like Abraham...thru faith as a gift from God

Romans 11:7-10

<u>Romans 11:7</u> – God "hardened" = holding back immediate judgment

1)*Pharaoh has made his decision to sin & not listen to God & not let Israel go*

2)Instead of immediately judging Pharaoh & pulling Israel out God delays & brings the 10 plagues to display His Essence

3)God delays His deserved judgment in order to give time to repent AND to display His majesty

Romans 11:8-10

1)Deut. 29 – Moses is looking at Israel and seeing nothing but rebellion

2)*Isaiah 29 – Speaks of God pouring out a spirit of stupor for their obstinacy*

3)*Psalm 60 – Messianic Psalm about the suffering Messiah, those that mock Him will receive judgment*

Closing Reflections:

1) Even in Judgment God is creating space for mercy!

2)God has indeed kept His Word – He has saved a remnant and Paul stands as His example...God is faithful and can be trusted to keep His Word