

# **Romans**

**The Righteousness of God  
proven through Messiah,  
King Jesus**

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# Romans

*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?*
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# Romans

Paul has answered question 1 in detail: How is God fixing life?

- *Jesus was crowned King at His resurrection & will fix life*
  - *He has taken on the requirement of Torah...of living perfectly before the Father on our behalf so we do not have to*
  - *He has offered Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of humanity so we will not be condemned*
  - *He has raised us up with Him and now has called us full heirs...what is true of Him is now true of us*
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# Romans

Paul has answered question 1 in detail: How is God fixing life?

- *He has indwelt us with His Spirit giving us life, enabling us to live well*
  - *He has illuminated our understanding of suffering...it literally proves we are connected to Messiah*
  - *His Spirit testifies daily to our spirit that we are full heirs whispering "Abba Father" to us*
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# Romans

He has tackled the majority of the 2<sup>nd</sup> question: Has He come thru on what He promised in the Old Testament?

➤ *The original contract with Abraham ALWAYS included Jews AND Gentiles within the children of God...not only is it not a new thought the Roman church stands as a testimony that God has been faithful*

➤ *The original agreement ALWAYS said our relationship with God is a result of a responsive faith based upon His faithfulness to us, not anything else (namely having Torah, circumcision, etc.)*

➤ *The Torah was never supposed to produce life...that's what God does!*

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# Romans

He has tackled the majority of the 2<sup>nd</sup> question: Has He come thru on what He promised in the Old Testament?

➤ *You have misunderstood what God promised*

a) There is an “Israel” and an “Israel”, “children” and “seed”. Do not mistake salvation FOR Israel with Israel’s ROLE in salvation history

b) God has always chosen to act thru a portion of Abraham’s offspring to save mankind (Isaac not Ishmael, Jacob not Esau)

c) 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

d) God ALWAYS worked with & thru a remnant – and Paul is part of that remnant of faith so what you are seeing is totally consistent with all of Scripture

e) Torah, the very thing you are relying on for relationship with God has always been pointing to Messiah

# Romans

*God is indeed righteous, He has been faithful...He has kept His word to build a covenant people OF FAITH and gave them life AND He is fixing life one person at a time*

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# Romans

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 = Just look at ME!*

*2. Romans 11:11 – Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

*His answer is an emphatic NO!*

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# Romans

He answers this question in 3 separate stages, each one building on the one before it:

Answer 1 = Verses 11b-16 - *What happened to ethnic Israel (not believing) has been for the good of the Gentiles...Israel will become jealous and be pushed to believe thru it (fulfilling Genesis 12)*

Answer 2 = Verses 17-24 - *Unbelieving Jews are like branches that have been broken off an olive tree while Gentiles are wild shoots that have been grafted on. How much more can God graft the natural branches back on if they believe?*

Answer 3 = Verses 25-32 - *The mystery of the Jews and Gentiles is finally clear...Israel's "hardening" (holding back His judgment) & the Gentiles "coming in" is actually God's means of saving Israel*

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# Romans

Romans 11:11-12: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

*Answer Number 1 – verses 11b-16*

Romans 10:19 But I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says, “I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation; with a foolish nation I will make you angry.”

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# Romans

Romans 11:11-12: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

*Israel's "stumbling over Messiah" was actually the MEANS by which it happened:*

*a) Israel sins over & over and ultimately rejects Messiah Jesus*

*b) God "hardens" Israel = He HOLDS OFF judgment & gives them time allowing them to head their stubborn direction*

*c) Israel's "hardening" (when God pauses judgment) relates directly to the Gentiles salvation*

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# Romans

Romans 11:11-12: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

*Romans 11:25 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.*

*Does this mean every single Gentile will believe at one point?*

*Of course not...but rather the total number of Gentiles who believe the Gospel of Jesus when all is said and done.*

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# Romans

Romans 11:11-12: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

I don't think there is reason to believe every single Jew will believe either:

- *The complete number of Jews that eventually come to faith in Jesus when all is said and done*
  - *And probably many more than believe at the present time*
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# Romans

Romans 11:13-16: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

Answer 1 = Verses 11b-16 - *What happened to ethnic Israel (not believing) has been for the good of the Gentiles...Israel will become jealous and be pushed to believe thru it*

## Israel is recapitulating Jesus

- *Thru One Mans death, Messiah gains reconciliation for the whole world*
  - *Now, His kinsfolk refuse to believe and much of the world receives salvation*
  - *Ethnic Israel has acted out the death of the Messiah in many ways*
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# Romans

Romans 11:13-16: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

Wants the Gentiles to realize they are the beneficiaries of this!

*a) Israel sinned & ultimately rejected Messiah*

*b) God "hardened" Israel = suspended judgment for a time creating a breathing space*

*c) So that the Gentiles could be brought in*

Romans 11:30-31 *Just as you (Gentiles) were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their (Ethnic Israel) disobedience, so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy.*

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# Romans

Romans 11:13-16: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

- *The “hardening” has come creating breathing space so the Gentiles can come in*
- *This in turn makes the Jews jealous so that some may believe as well*

Paul is saying to the Gentiles in Rome...when they come back it will be like a little Easter all over again!!!

**Celebrate it! Celebrate them!!!**

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# Romans

Romans 11:16: *Granted that ethnic Israel has stumbled...is this permanent?*

POINT = The whole is sanctified by the part

2 images here:

➤ *Lump & firstfruits = Sacrificial system of the Feast of Weeks (Num. 15:20) - 1<sup>st</sup> part of the dough that was offered to God made your entire batch holy*

➤ *The branches by the root*

POINT – Gentile Christians need to treat all Jews as holy by extension of the believing remnant

# Romans

## Overall Point to Answer 1

- 1) God still wants to save more ethnic Jews
- 2) And the Gentiles are warned to understand what has happened
  - a) The Jewish rejection of Messiah has been to our benefit
  - b) God is anything but done with Israel
  - c) As a result you should be moved to the bottom of your soul with both appreciation of Israel and to love her back

They are after all relatives to your Messiah

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