

God's Promises & His People

Romans 11:1-36

Election, Foreknowledge, Predestination and Israel.

Applied to the Larger Context – Israel:

He will pursue his own until the end of time. God's promises and plans are unchanging. His promises will never fail.

Romans 11 I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. 2. God did not reject his people, **whom he foreknew**.



Dangerous Theology

There is a dangerous theology that is circulating in Christian circles. It is a doctrine that says that Israel has been rejected by God once and for all. Therefore all the promises God made to Israel are null and void and will never be fulfilled. The teaching believes the church, that is, we Gentiles (non Jews) have inherited all the kingdom promises of in both Old and New Testaments.

Many Reformed Theologians, like Abraham, think the Lord delays his coming, perhaps we misinterpreted the Word, have changed the word from literal to figurative. They have begun to help the Lord out of his literal promise thinking it will be through Hagar, but Hagar and Ishmael are not the promise! They have begun to think that the Lord abandoned his people whom he chose, he elected, predestined, he foreknew.

Spiritual Israel

Romans 2:29 But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.

Galatians 6:16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

1. Why does Paul talk now about Israel?

That makes no sense to most of us. It is irrelevant.

What advantage has the Jew? *To whom pertains the promises*

Romans 9:4 Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises;
NIV: Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises.

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God *are* without repentance.

Romans 15:8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

?? Does God renege on his promises? To go back on a promise-commitment.

?? Does God change his mind?

?? Does God elect, then unelect? Does he foreordain then unordain?

?? Does he predestine then unpredestine?

1,000 Generations = 40 years /generation = 40,000 years

Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he *is* God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

1 Chronicles 16:15 Be ye mindful always of his covenant; the word *which* he commanded to a thousand generations;

Psalms 105:8 He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word *which* he commanded to a thousand generations.

1. Genesis 15:14-16 - All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring **forever**.
2. Genesis 22:17 - as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which *is* upon the sea shore;
3. Genesis 32:12 - thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.
4. Numbers 23:19 - God is not a man that he should lie
5. Deut 28:63-66 - The LORD will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other.
6. Deut 30:1,7 - then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes
7. Isaiah 49:15 Graven upon God's hands
8. Jeremiah 16:15 - God swore it to their fathers...
9. Jeremiah 33:20 -covenant so sure as sun up and sun down.
10. Zechariah 12:10 - they will look upon him whom they have pierced
11. Revelation 1:7 - they will look upon him whom they have pierced
12. Zechariah 13:1 - a fountain opened to the house of David
13. Zechariah 13:9 - : they shall call on my name, and I will hear them
14. Joel 2:29-3:3 - In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem
15. Joel 3:9-21 - Their bloodguilt, which I have not pardoned, I will pardon
16. Habakkuk 2:2 - though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.
17. Ezekiel 36:22 - It is not for your sake that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name
18. Ezekiel 37:12-26 - This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land.

2. What's the point?

**Why does he spend nearly 3 chapters around that issue?
They are the root, we are the wild branches. Branches are cut off but the plant, the root is not destroyed.**

1. They are blinded "in part" is caused for a greater purpose - 11:
2. They were hardened. - 11:7
3. They have a stupor spirit of slumber (veil) - 11:8
4. They have a remnant that will be saved - a thread. - 11:
5. They are the root: we are grafted into Israel, not that Israel is no more. - 11:
6. Their rebellion is temporary: Until the full number (measure) of the Gentiles has come in - Romans 11:25 (Mt 24:14, Luke 21:24)
7. All Israel will be saved. Romans 11:26. And so all Israel will be saved

Luke 21:24

And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

Matthew 24:14

This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations (tribes, families, languages, peoples) and then the end will come.

Romans 11:25

Until the full number (measure) of the Gentiles has come in

25. I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.

3. What is his conclusion?

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? ? The Gospel to all mankind "until the time of the Gentiles is over"

? ? Then all Israel will be saved.

?

Romans 11:1 I say then, Has God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, *of* the tribe of Benjamin.

Hebrews 6:13-19

13. When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, 14. saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants." 15. And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised. 16. Men swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. 17. Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. 18. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. 19. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

SCRIPTURE – Romans 11:

Remnant Theology

1. I ask then: **Did God reject his people? By no means!** I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. 2. **God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew.** Don't you know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah--how he appealed to God against Israel: 3. "Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me" ? 4. And what was God's answer to him? "I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." 5. So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. 6. And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

Hardening of Israel (hardened, blinded, stupor)

7. What then? What Israel sought so earnestly it did not obtain, but the elect did. The others were **hardened**, 8. as it is written: "God gave them a **spirit of stupor**, eyes so that they could not see and ears so that they could not hear, to this very day." 9. And David says: "May their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them. 10. May their eyes be darkened so they cannot see, and their backs be bent forever."

Beyond Recovery? (God's Purposes Prevail)

11. Again I ask: **Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all!** Rather, because of their transgression, *salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious.* 12. But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring! 13. I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry 14. in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. 15. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

Grafted Into the Root

16. If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if **the root** is holy, so are the branches. 17. If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the **olive root**, 18. do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but **the root supports you.** 19. You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in." 20. Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. 21. For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either. 22. Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. otherwise, you also will be cut off. 23. And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. 24. After all, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!

Temporary Hardening (in part ... until)

25. I do not want you to be ignorant of this **mystery**, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced **a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.**

The Deliverer Will Come! (against amillennialism)

26. And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob." 27. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins." 28. As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, **29. for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.**

30. Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, 31. so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. 32. For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

33. Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! 34. "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" 35. "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" 36. For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Promises of God To Israel, Seed of Abraham

Genesis 15:14-16

14. The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Lift up your eyes from where you are and look north and south, east and west. 15. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring **forever**. 16. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted.

Genesis 22:17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as **the sand** which *is* upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

Genesis 32:12 And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as **the sand** of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

Numbers 23:19

19. God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

Deut 28:63-66

63. Just as it pleased the LORD to make you prosper and increase in number, so it will please him to ruin and destroy you. | You will be uprooted from the land you are entering to possess. 64. Then the LORD will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other. There you will worship other gods--gods of wood and stone, which neither you nor your fathers have known. 65. Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. There the LORD will give you an anxious mind, eyes weary with longing, and a despairing heart. 66. You will live in constant suspense, filled with dread both night and day, never sure of your life.

Deut 30:1,7

1. When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come upon you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD your God disperses you among the nations,3. then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. ... 4. Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the LORD your God will gather you and bring you back. 5. He will bring you to the land that belonged to your fathers, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers. 6. The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

Isaiah 49:15 Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. 16 **Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.**

Jeremiah 33:20

14. "'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. 15. "'In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. 16. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.' 17. For this is what the LORD says: 'David will never

fail to have a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, 18. nor will the priests, who are Levites, ever fail to have a man to stand before me continually to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings and to present sacrifices." 19. The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: 20. "This is what the LORD says: `If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time, 21. then my covenant with David my servant--and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before me--can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne. 22. I will make the **descendants of David my servant and the Levites who minister before me as countless as the stars of the sky and as measureless as the sand on the seashore.**" 23. The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: 24. "Have you not noticed that these people are saying, `The LORD has rejected the two kingdoms he chose'? So they despise my people and no longer regard them as a nation. 25. This is what the LORD says: `If I have not established my covenant with day and night and the fixed laws of heaven and earth, 26. then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his sons to rule over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them."

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only *son*, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

Revelation 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Zechariah 13:1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

Zechariah 13:9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.

Joel 2:29-3:3 29. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. 30. I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke. 31. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. 32. And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the LORD has said, among the survivors whom the LORD calls. 3: 1. `In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, 2. I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.

Joel 3:9-21 14. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. 15. The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine. 16. The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel. 17. `Then you will know that I, the LORD your God, dwell in Zion, my holy hill. Jerusalem will be holy; never again will foreigners invade her. 18. `In that day the mountains will drip new wine, and the hills will flow with milk; all the ravines of Judah will run with water. A fountain will flow out of the LORD's house and will water the valley of acacias. 19. But Egypt will be desolate, Edom a desert waste, because of violence done to the people of Judah, in whose land they shed innocent blood. 20. Judah will be inhabited forever and Jerusalem through all generations. 21. Their bloodguilt, which I have not pardoned, I will pardon.` The LORD dwells in Zion!

Habakkuk 2:2 And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. 3 For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

Ezekiel 36:22

19. I dispersed them among the nations, and they were scattered through the countries; I judged them according to their conduct and their actions. 20. And wherever they went among the nations they profaned my holy name, for it was said of them, 'These are the LORD's people, and yet they had to leave his land.' 21. I had concern for my holy name, which the house of Israel profaned among the nations where they had gone. 22. "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: **It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name**, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. 23. I will show the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Sovereign LORD, when I show myself holy through you before their eyes. 24. "'For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. 25. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 26. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. 28. You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God. 29. I will save you from all your uncleanness. I will call for the grain and make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you. 30. I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine. 31. Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices. 32. I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake, declares the Sovereign LORD. Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, O house of Israel! 33. "'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. 34. The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. 35. They will say, "This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited." 36. Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.' 37. "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Once again I will yield to the plea of the house of Israel and do this for them: I will make their people as numerous as sheep, 38. as numerous as the flocks for offerings at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts. So will the ruined cities be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am the LORD."

Ezekiel 37:12-26

12. Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the **Sovereign LORD says**: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13. Then you, my people, will know that **I am the LORD**, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. 14. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.'" 21. and say to them, 'This is what the **Sovereign LORD says**: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. 22. **I will make them one nation in the land**, on the mountains of Israel. **There will be one king over all of them** and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. 23. They will no longer defile themselves with their idols and vile

images or with any of their offenses, for I will save them from all their sinful backsliding, and I will cleanse them. They will be my people, and I will be their God.

24. "My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. 25. They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever. 26. I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers, and I will put my sanctuary among them forever. 27. My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. 28. Then the nations will know that I the LORD make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever."

Hebrews 6:13-19

13. When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, 14. saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants." 15. And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised. 16. Men swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. 17. Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. 18. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. 19. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.