

## 8:31-39

- Why can't anything come between God and His people? Because God secures His people!
  - If God is for us, who can be against us? (31)
  - No one can bring legal charges against his people (33)
    - God justifies his people (gives them a legal righteousness) (33)
  - Christ died (and was raised), and now sits at God's right hand of power, taking care of the wrath God had for us (34)
    - And so NO ONE can separate us from Christ's love (35)
      - Not the worst catastrophe imaginable (35)
    - We have conquered, not by our own doing, but by Christ's (37)
      - Therefore, nothing can separate us from God (39)

## IV. 9:1 - 11:36 The Defense of the Gospel: The Problem of Israel

- To Israel belongs (4-5):
  - Adoption
  - Glory
  - Covenants
  - Law
  - Worship
  - Promises
  - Patriarchs
  - Christ

## 9:6-7

- For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." <sup>8</sup>This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring

## (v6) "Not all who are descended from Israel are Israel"

- True Israel = Jews truly saved within the larger nation (of Israel)
  - And ultimately, anyone who is in Christ (Gal 3)

## Why was Esau rejected?

though they were:

not yet born

had done nothing either good or bad  
in order that God's purpose of election  
might continue

not because of works

but because of his call

## (v13) "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated"

- Malachi 1:2-3
  - nations/individuals
  - "love" and "hate" in Malachi are covenantal terms
  - "Jacob I have chosen, but Esau I have rejected"

## 2. 9:14-23 Objections Answered: The Freedom and Purpose of God

- (v20-21) "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'why did you make me like this?' Does not the potter have the right...?"
- Is 29:16 You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"?

Why God's choice most glorifies Him:

### 1. If ALL are chosen:

God demonstrates His Love without showing  
He is Just/Holy/Good/Mercy

Sin goes unpunished

### 2. If NONE are chosen:

God demonstrates his Holiness/Goodness/  
Perfection

His Love/Mercy isn't demonstrated

### 3. If SOME are chosen:

The only option in which God's: Love/Mercy/  
Holiness/Goodness/Perfection are on display

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### 3. 9:24-29 God's Calling of a New People: Israel and the Gentiles

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- Citations:
  - Hosea 2:23; 1:10; Is 10:22, 23; 1:9; Deut 29:23; Is 13:19; Jer 49:18; 50:40; Amos 4:11

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### C. 9:30-10:21 Understanding Israel's Plight: Christ as the Climax of Salvation History

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- ch 9-11 are 33% of all of Paul's OT quotes

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(v32-33) "They stumbled over the 'stumbling stone.' As it is written..."

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- Is 28: 16 therefore thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.'
- 8:14 And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 15 And many shall stumble on it. They shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken."

<sup>31</sup>"You saw, O king, and behold, a great image. This image, mighty and of exceeding brightness, stood before you, and its appearance was frightening. <sup>32</sup>The head of this image was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its middle and thighs of bronze, <sup>33</sup>its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. <sup>34</sup>As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. <sup>35</sup>Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

<sup>44</sup>And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever, <sup>45</sup>just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure.”

## Mountain

- symbol of refuge and security
- Eden was on a mountain (Ezek 28:13-16)
- God/burning bush was on Mt. Sinai (Ex 3:1)
  - Moses goes up the mountain to receive the Law (Ex 19:2)
- Jerusalem/the Temple is on a mountain
- Jesus goes up the mountain to give the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5)
- John is taken up to a mountain to see the holy city of Jerusalem (the New Jerusalem) come down from heaven to invade earth (Rev 21:11)

(v3) "Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own"

- **1. National righteousness:** Jews = keep their covenant relationship with God to themselves
- **2. Self-maintenance:** One's own righteousness in standing before God could be maintained by obedience to the Law

(v4) "Christ is the end of the law"

- End = *telos* (the goal toward which a movement is being directed)

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(v11) "Anyone who trusts in [me] will never be put to shame"

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- Paul quotes Is 28:16

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(v13) Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

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- Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved

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## 2. 10:14-21 Israel's Accountability

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- if people are to "call" on the name of the Lord:
  - Messengers must be **sent**
  - The message must be **preached**
  - People must **hear** the message
  - Hearing must be met with **faith**



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D. 11:1-10 Summary: Israel, the 'Elect' and the 'Hardened'

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- Despite Israel's disobedience (10:21) God has not rejected his people (11:2)

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Ch 11 flow:

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- In 1-6
  - But now there is a remnant chosen by grace (5)

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Ch 11 flow:

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- In 7-10
  - The elect - the remnant chosen by grace had obtained the promise, but the others were hardened

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Ch 11 flow:

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- In 11-32
  - The hardening that has come upon Israel = "salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious"

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## All

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- Mark 1:5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
- Mt 21:10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

1 Tim 2:3-4 <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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## So who is "All Israel"

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- Literally every Jewish person
- a significant number of Jews
- Israel is representative of God's People

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## (v17) "Branches...wild olive shoot...olive root"

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- symbolized Israel in the OT
  - **Root:** the patriarchs (11:16)
  - (Natural) **Branches:** the Jewish people - descended physically from the patriarchs
  - **Wild olive shoots:** Gentile Christians - grafted into the olive tree "contrary to nature" (11:24)

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## Who is Israel?

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- Christian Zionism (literal)
- Replacement Theology (spiritual / allegorical / symbolic)
- Jesus (and the church)

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## Who is Israel?

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- The **Christian Zionist** ultimately rejects the equality that the Gentiles have inherited in Christ
- The **Replacement Theologian** rejects Israel, arguing that the church has replaced her
- **Jesus fulfillment** interprets the OT in light of Jesus, and doesn't reject Israel, but instead sees the church as participating with Jesus AS the true Israel

"Abraham's family, Israel, the Jews, the circumcision, are neither reaffirmed as they stand, nor "superseded" by a superior group, nor "replaced" with someone else . . . but transformed, through the death and resurrection of Israel's own Messiah and the Spirit of Israel's own God, so that Israel is now, as was always promised, both less and more than the physical family of Abraham." NT Wright