

## Book Study #18 ROMANS

## Rom. 11:1-36 – The Remnant of Israel

### Before We Begin...check the original map...

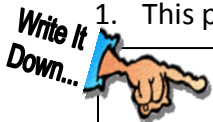


*I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. 2God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew... 28As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, 29 for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. 30Just 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. 32For 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.*

### Let's get in gear...

1. Do you prefer spending time by yourself, with just a few people, or with a large group?
2. Who makes up your "family?" a) blood relatives b) blood & marriage c) blood, marriage, in-laws & "step" d) a, b, c, & adoption

### Exploration... Discovery... Revelation...



1. This passage revolves around two rhetorical questions. Summarize the questions and their answers.

2. What is the point of the illustration concerning Elijah? (vv. 2-5; see 1 Kings 19:9-18)

3. What does Paul identify as the cause of the faith of believing Jews? What does he identify as the cause of the hardness of heart of unbelieving Jews? (vv. 5-8)

4. Paul uses an illustration of an olive tree (vv. 16-24) to explain the relationship between Jews and Gentiles. From this illustration, identify:

The cultivated olive tree / olive root	The wild olive tree / olive shoot
The "branches" which have been broken off	The "branches" which have been grafted in

5. Why are some branches grafted onto this tree, while others are grafted on? What should be our response to this? (v. 20)

6. What is the ultimate destiny of ethnic Israel? Who does this include? (some controversy here...)

7. From this passage, what should be our attitude toward the Jewish people?

## **What do you think? Some "food" for thought...**

Verses 33-36 are Paul's doxology of praise and worship to God. They form a fitting conclusion to chapters 9-11, in which God's merciful plans for Israel and the Gentiles are explained. It is noteworthy that the focus of the doxology is not on what has been revealed, as wonderful as that is. Rather, the magnificence of what has been revealed concerning salvation causes Paul to break into praise of God's unsearchable wisdom and knowledge.

The understanding that we have now is like looking at "a poor reflection as in a mirror" (1 Cor. 13:12); what remains to be revealed to us is more marvelous than we can even imagine...

## **As we complete this part of the Journey...**

**A prayer for your journey... Note that this prayer has two parts: The first is for preparation and the second is for a demonstration of your faith.**

**Read this silently with me but say aloud the underlined parts as we get to them. We'll do this at least two times.**

*"As I walk through this coming week, help me prepare for my journey by reading my Bible more regularly, seeking help as I need it from my Christian friends and focusing on the needs of others instead of myself.*

*Help me to demonstrate my faith by stepping boldly into the unknown, untried, and untested areas of my life. I pray in the name of Jesus"*

-Amen