

The Remnant of Israel—Romans 11:1–10

Topics:

Christianity,
God,
Hardheartedness,
Lost,
Rejection,
Stubbornness

Open It

1. How would you turn down an invitation to an event that your boss wanted you to attend?

Romans 11:1–10 (ESV)

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel?

³“Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.”

⁴But what is God’s reply to him? “I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.”

⁵So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace.

⁶But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

⁷What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened,

⁸as it is written, “God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day.”

⁹And David says, “Let their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them;

¹⁰let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see, and bend their backs forever.”

Explore It

2. What was Paul’s background? (11:1)
3. How did Paul answer those who believed that God had rejected the Jews? (11:1–6)
4. What caused God’s remnant of people to survive? (11:5)
5. How did Paul describe the people in Israel who please God? (11:5–6)
6. Who are the elect? (11:7)
7. What had Israel done to try to obtain righteousness in God’s sight? (11:7–9)
8. What results from God’s decision to harden people’s hearts? (11:9–10)

Get It

9. What characteristics separated the remnant of Israel from the rest of Israel?
10. What causes people reared in Christian families and church activities to turn away from God?
11. What can God do to change the hearts of people who have turned away from Him?

Apply It

12. What can you do this week to encourage a Christian who feels outnumbered or overwhelmed?