

**Prayer:**

**Slide # 1**  
**Romans**

**Theme:** The Righteousness of God – The Gospel of God

**Outline:**

- **Prologue:** 1:1-17
- **Doctrinal:** 1:18-8:39  
God’s holiness – man’s sinfulness – 1:18-3:20  
Justification by grace through faith – 3:21-5:21  
Sanctification of the believer – 6:1-8:39
- **Dispensational: 9:1-11:36** (The place of Israel and the church)
- **Practical:** 12:1-15:33 (Duties and privileges of the believer)
- **Epilogue:** 16:1-27

The dominant theme of Romans is dealing with the righteousness of God which is acquired by faith. Paul emphasizes that God justifies the ungodly on the basis of faith ALONE (Rom. 4:5).

**Slide # 2**

We must bear in mind that chapters 9-11 are part of Paul’s treatment of justification, not a historical essay or an exercise in Jewish patriotism. Paul is showing that the doctrine he has been expounding in the earlier part of the epistle is not vitiated by what had happened to Israel. God had made promises to Israel, and these promises would be kept. – **Leon Morris**

Paul in Romans 9-11 is showing that God is not done with Israel. He shows that God has a multilayered plan involving both Jew and Gentile. However, God’s plan is that Israel would be His channel of blessing for the whole world. More specifically that channel would be the Abrahamic Covenant that is fulfilled in Jesus the Messiah. We tap into the blessing of this covenant by FAITH. This is precisely shown to have been Israel’s problem – their LACK OF FAITH.

**Slide # 3**

**Romans 9:30–32 (NKJV)**

**30** What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even **the righteousness of faith**;

**31** but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness.

**32** Why? Because **they did not seek it by faith**, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone.

**Slide # 4****Romans 10:3–4 (NKJV)**

**3** For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.

**4** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness **to everyone who believes**.

**Slide # 5****Romans 11:20 (NKJV)**

**20** Well said. **Because of unbelief** they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear.

**Romans 11:23 (NKJV)**

**23** And they also, **if they do not continue in unbelief**, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.

We who are Gentile by background have been grafted into the blessing aspect of the Abrahamic covenant, but God is able to graft Israel back in if they do not continue in unbelief, and He will yet do that very thing as Paul now goes on to show in our study today.

**Romans 11:25–32 (NKJV)**

**25** For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

The word "***mystery***" as used by Paul refers to something previously hidden that is now revealed. It is a divine secret that we would not know apart from God revealing it.

**Slide # 6**

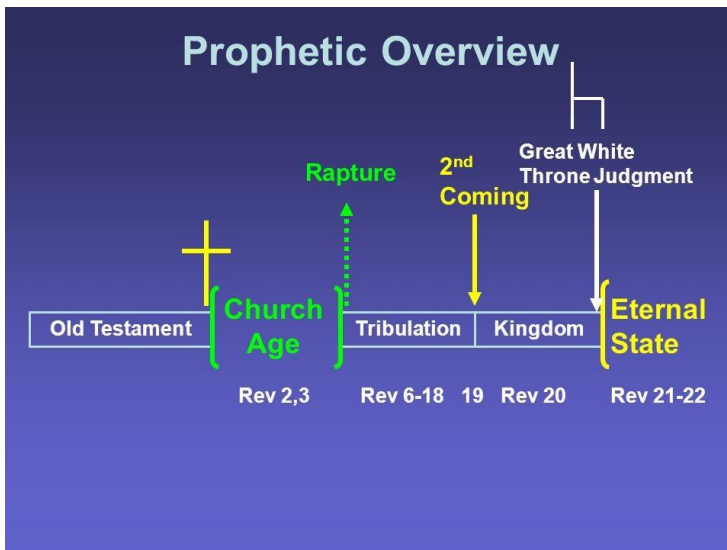
The overwhelming majority of usage of this word in the NT is by the apostle Paul. And in particular he often uses it in relation to the Church which was a brand-new thing started by God on the Day of Pentecost. In other ages the idea of the Church was not made known. It was a divine secret. But now in the Church Age God is doing a new thing called the Church which consists of both believing Jews and believing Gentiles in one body. The Church is a forever family of believers in Jesus which began on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2 and will be completed at the Rapture (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

**Slide # 7****Ephesians 3:4–6 (NKJV)**

**4** by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),

**5** which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:

**6** that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,

**Slide # 8**

Understand that everything about the Church was previously a “mystery” but is now revealed in the giving of NT truth. Paul has already strongly indicated in Romans 11, that the Church although consisting of both Jew and Gentile, is made up of an overwhelmingly predominantly Gentile majority in terms of background.

What Paul is now revealing, which was previously a secret, is that the work of God which is currently predominately Gentile in makeup (the Church) will continue until the Church is complete and then mass conversion will define national Israel. What Paul is saying is that national conversion will not come to Israel until God’s special work of building the Church (which is predominately Gentile) is completed.

**Redemptive history** from Genesis 12 on can be summarized in this way: Israel – Church Age/largely Gentile emphasis – Israel. The Church Age is a parenthesis age in which God has temporarily set Israel aside, but what Paul is saying here in Romans 11:25 is that when the Church is complete then God will come back and complete His program with Israel. Israel’s being set aside is merely temporary. Note the language here in verse 25 -UNTIL the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. Blindness in part defines Israel – but only UNTIL the Church is complete.

Paul as apostle to the Gentiles (v. 13) does not want the Gentiles to get all cocky thinking that since Israel has been cast aside (v. 15) it is now all about them. This is precisely the great error of “Replacement Theology” that says God is now done with Israel and that the Church is now spiritual Israel and all of the covenant promises made to Israel are now spiritually fulfilled in the Church. That smacks of Gentile arrogance that is wise in its own estimation – the very thing Paul warns about here in Romans 11:25.

Paul has previously warned the Gentile Christians against boasting (v. 18); against arrogance (v. 20) and now against conceit (v. 25). The issue of heady “prejudice” is an ever persistent danger.

In truth God is NOT done with Israel and so Paul wants to clue us in on how the truth of the Church (which is largely in Gentile in makeup) intersects God’s plan for Israel. He unfolds God’s plan right here in Romans 11:25.

The truth of God doing a work in the world which would be largely Gentile in makeup was previously unknown. Yes, this current work includes some Jews as Israel's blindness is not total but only "in part".

Their blindness (or better hardness – cf. v. 7) is only partial. But Paul here reveals that this work which is predominately Gentile in emphasis will continue UNTIL "the fullness of the Gentiles has come in".

### **Slide # 9**

#### **Acts 15:14 (NKJV)**

**14** Simon has declared how **God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name.**

This is what God is doing in the world today. He is visiting the Gentiles of the world to take out of them a people for His name. And some of you are here this morning! This group of people is called the Church. Again, it consists of both Jew and Gentile, but mostly Gentiles.

Paul is revealing that this situation will continue UNTIL "the fullness of the Gentiles has come in" and only then will "all Israel will be saved".

In verse 12, Paul spoke of the coming "**fullness**" of Israel which refers to the coming time of their large-scale national conversion that will then usher in the blessings of the kingdom.

Here in verse 25 Paul speaks of "**the fullness of the Gentiles**" as the full complement of Gentiles that will complete the Church. In both cases "fullness" in this context has the sense of divine blessing.

The fullness of the Gentiles will mark the completion of the largely Gentile Church. This will be followed by a large-scale conversion of Jews in the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel (the Tribulation Period) which follows on the heels of the Church Age.

### **Slide # 10**

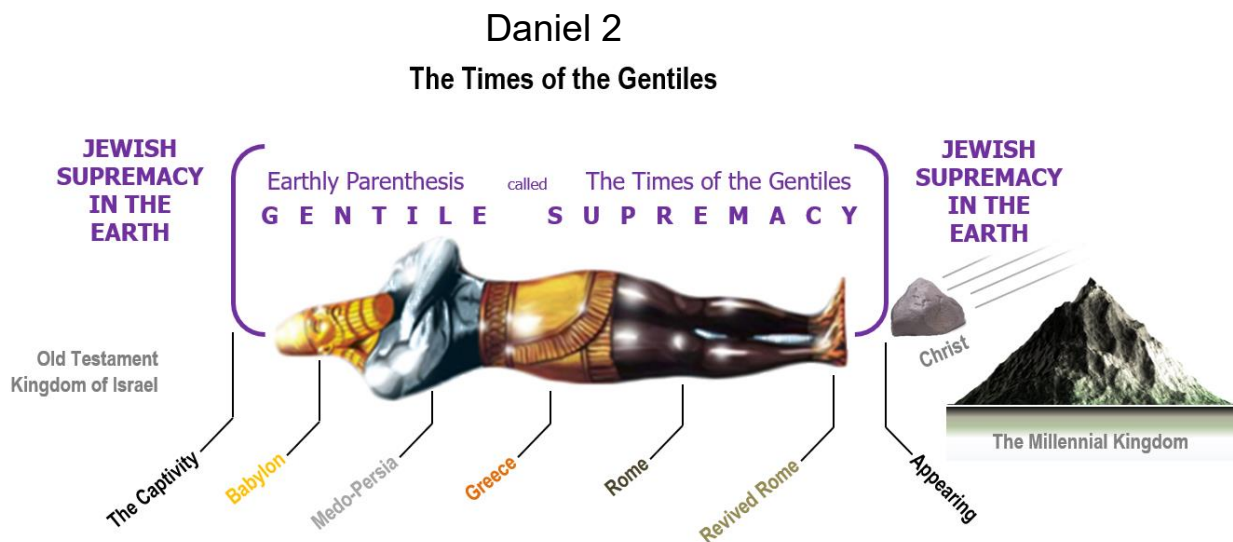
#### **DISTINCTION:**

**"Fullness of the Gentiles"** = Relationship of the Gentiles to the Church.

**"The times of the Gentiles"** = Oppressive relationship of the Gentiles to the nation of Israel from the time of the Babylonian Captivity until the Second Coming (see 2 Chron. 36:1-21; Luke 21:24).

**Slide # 11****Luke 21:24 (NKJV)**

**24** And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And **Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.**

**Slide # 12****Slide # 13*****Romans 11:25 - 2 Pronged Mystery***

- Israel's **temporarily/partial** hardening – Gentiles' Salvation
- **DELAY** of Israel's national conversion **UNTIL** the fullness of Gentile conversion (cf. Rom. 11:11, 19, 22).

Once the largely Gentile Church is complete at the Rapture, then Paul says...

**26** And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;

During the Church Age there was “a remnant according to the election of grace (v. 5) but now Paul speaks in reference to the nation of Israel as a whole. In the Tribulation Period God is going to purge out the rebel Jews (cf. Ezek. 20:34-38).

**Slide # 14****Zechariah 13:8–9 (NKJV)**

**8** And it shall come to pass in all the land,” Says the LORD, “**That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die**, But **one-third shall be left** in it:  
**9** I will bring the **one-third** through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. **They will call on My name**, And I will answer them. I will say, ‘**This is My people**’; **And each one will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’**”

Romans 11:26 represents converted Israel in the future. The verb “will be” is future tense. All of them who survive as a national whole will collectively go into the kingdom as a nation. Thus, “***all Israel will be saved***”.

There is considerable agreement that all Israel does not mean “each and every Israelite without exception”; the term refers to the nation as a whole. It is used this way in the Old Testament (1 Sam. 12:1; 2 Chron. 12:1; Dan. 9:11). – ***Leon Morris***

This point cannot be stressed too strongly. To take Israel in Romans 11:26 as the Christian church is to take it in a totally different sense than Paul has used it throughout chapters 9-11.

– ***Dispensationalism Revisited***

Israel means Israel and the Church means the Church. To confuse these two or try to mix them results in great theological error! At core this is the very idea of being a dispensationalist – we keep Israel separate and distinct from the Church as rightly dividing the Word clearly shows.

**Slide # 15**

“Israel” is the name for the Jewish people. It is used 70 times in the NT of Jews, Hebrews, or Israelites. It is not used as a title for the church. Galatians 6:16 is not an exception; it refers to saved or godly Jews as “the Israel of God.” Here in verse 26 “all Israel” means there will be a conversion of the Hebrew nation. – ***HCSB***

And then to buttress his point Paul quotes from Isaiah 59:20-21, “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob” (cf. Isa. 27:9).

Notice He is not coming from Bethlehem (where He prophetically came at the time of His first coming as seen in Micah 5:2) but rather to Zion where He will come at the time of His Second Coming.

### **Slide # 16**

#### **Joel 3:16 (NKJV)**

**16** The LORD also will roar from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel.

The “Deliverer” means “the Savior” Who is Jesus! The context relates to the Second Coming. Zion is the poetic name for Jerusalem (Zech. 12:3, 9). It is interesting that Paul here in Romans 11:26 gives a free running quote from Isaiah that emphasizes God’s sovereign work in bringing Israel to repentance, while the more literal rendering of Isaiah 59:20 emphasizes human responsibility.

### **Slide # 17**

#### **Romans 11:26 (NKJV)**

**26** And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;

#### **Isaiah 59:20 (NKJV)**

**20** “The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob,” Says the LORD.

Of course both are true. But it serves to highlight the tension we consistently see interwoven throughout the text between God’s sovereignty and human responsibility.

One of the KEY things that must be in place before the Second Coming can take place is that Israel must first come to repentance. This was the great issue in John the Baptist’s ministry as he came calling the people to repentance to prepare the way for Messiah the LORD.

Sadly, they did not repent and hence the kingdom was put on hold (cf. Mt. 3:2; 4:17). Jesus towards the end of His ministry told the Jews, “you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’” (Mt. 23:39) which is a way of saying until they recognize Him as the true Messiah!



**Slide # 18****Acts 3:19–21 (NKJV)**

**19 Repent therefore and be converted**, that your sins may be blotted out, **so that times of refreshing may come** from the presence of the Lord,

**20** and that **He may send Jesus Christ**, who was preached to you before,

**21** whom **heaven must receive until the times of restoration** of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

**27 For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.”**

This will be the fulfillment of the “blessing” aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant which is amplified in the New Covenant. A repentant Israel will then enjoy the blessing of forgiveness and all the spiritual blessings promised in conjunction with the New Covenant (cf. Jer. 31-34; Ezek. 36:25-29; Zech. 13:1).

**Slide # 19****Jeremiah 31:31 (NKJV)**

**31** “Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make **a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—

**Jeremiah 31:34 (NKJV)**

**34** No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. **For I will forgive their iniquity**, and their sin I will remember no more.”

**28 Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.**

Concerning the gospel the Jews in general have been hostile to God, which has resulted in spiritual benefits accruing to the Gentiles (cf. 1 Thess. 2:14-16). But that is not the whole story. But concerning the election (God’s gracious choice) God has determined that as a nation they still have a future for the sake of the patriarchal fathers to whom God made covenant promises.

Even though Israel up to this point has for the most part been hostile to the gospel yet that does not altar the promises God made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob concerning the ultimate future of the nation. God still has a special plan for Israel and He will yet fulfill all His covenant promises.

To say that God will not fulfill ALL His covenant promises to Israel is to desecrate the very CHARACTER of God. God's very name "YHWH" is tied to His unchanging faithful character as Israel's covenant keeping God. His very name I AM is a statement of His eternal unchanging character.

In my mind it really doesn't get much more blasphemous than to take the position that God does not keep His covenant promises. That presents an entirely different kind of God than is presented in the Bible.

### **Slide # 20**

#### **Israel's Unique Paradoxical Relationship with God**

***Enemies of God*** (Concerning the gospel) – for the sake of the Gentiles

***Beloved of God*** (Concerning the election) – for the sake of the fathers

This proves God is not done with Israel as a nation. The national promises made to the patriarch are still intact in spite of Israel's chronic rebellion.

#### **29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.**

The "gifts" are what God has promised Israel as noted in Romans 9:4-5 involving such things as "the adoption", "the covenants", and "the promises". Israel was a special people who were given special gifts.

With this Paul links "***the calling***" (cf. 9:11; 11:7, 28). God's calling for Israel is God's determined destiny. God gives certain gifts but He calls people and nations. Both the gifts promised to Israel and her calling are ***irrevocable*** meaning they are unalterable. Thus, Israel cannot be "canceled". Her destiny is certain! What God has unconditionally promised Israel cannot be rescinded! The gifts and calling of God regarding Israel are absolutely certain! God is not a fickle God Who retracks what He has promised.

### **Slide # 21**

#### **Numbers 23:19 (NKJV)**

**19** “God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”

What this means is that Israel is still God’s chosen people; His one special chosen nation regardless of her present condition. Israel’s position in the plan and purpose of God has not changed! Israel is not going anywhere! She remains God’s special chosen nation of destiny in keeping with the prophetic Scriptures.

After stating that one day God will make a new covenant with the “house of Israel and with the house of Judah” – which is to say with the whole nation of Israel, God then in a poetic way says it is IMPOSSIBLE that Israel should ever cease from being a nation before Him.

### **Slide # 22**

#### **Jeremiah 31:35–37 (NKJV)**

**35** Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar (The LORD of hosts is His name):

**36** “If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the LORD, Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation before Me forever.”

**37** Thus says the LORD: “If heaven above can be measured, And the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel For all that they have done, says the LORD.

God names three impossible things. If the ordinances that rule the sun, moon, and stars can be can be stopped; if the heaven of the universe can be measured; if the inner foundations of the earth can be searched out, well then God says if that is possible then He can also be done with Israel for all they have done. But the rhetorical point is that this is IMPOSSIBLE – three-fold IMPOSSIBLE. And then God follows up by saying He will bring about a forever restoration.

At the end of OT history after Israel had proven to be a consistent and continual failure God says this in Malachi 3:6....

### **Slide # 23**

#### **Malachi 3:6 (NKJV)**

6 “For **I am the LORD, I do not change**; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

Here is the reason for Israel’s continued existence and preservation. Behind Israel is the reality of YHWH – the covenant God of Israel. Israel’s continued existence and ultimately her blessed future is as sure as God and His Word!

### **Slide # 24**



I often say Israel is God’s great apologetic to a watching world. Even in her extreme blindness and hardness God continues to preserve her? WHY? Because of Who He is – because of His promises made to the fathers! They are still the ONE CHOSEN nation among all the nations of the world!

### **God’s Answer to Skeptics – Mark Robinson**

The nation of Israel and her people the Jews are an enigma to this world. The preservation of the people of Israel is a contradiction of all historical trends. The uniqueness of this people is captured in an essay Mark Twain authored in 1899:

If the statistics are right, the Jews constitute but one percent of the human race. It suggests a nebulous dim puff of stardust lost in the blaze of the Milky Way. Properly the Jew ought hardly to be heard of; but he is heard of, has always been heard of. He is as prominent on the planet as any other people, and his commercial importance is extravagantly out of proportion to the smallness of his bulk. His contributions to the world’s list of great names in literature, science, art, music, finance, medicine and abstruse learning are also way out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers . . . The Egyptian, the Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendour, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed, and made a vast noise, and they were gone; . . . The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was . . . All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality? – Israel My Glory (Aug. Oct. 1985, p. 25

For those of us who are Bible believers we know the answer. It is simply YHWH – the covenant God of Israel. The explanation for Israel is simply the God of Israel.

**Psalm 124:1–3 (NKJV)**

**1** “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,” Let Israel now say—

**2** “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, When men rose up against us,

**3** Then they would have swallowed us alive, When their wrath was kindled against us;

**Slide # 25**



It is in reference to Israel that God says...

**Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)**

**11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

**Psalm 33:10–12 (NKJV)**

**10** The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect.

**11** The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations.

**12** Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.

If God does not carry through on His covenant promises to Israel then He is not a faithful God and none of us can be sure of anything! Let me remind us Gentiles as we have seen in our study that Israel is the root and we are merely grafted in. If God is not faithful to the root promises of the Abrahamic covenant, then why would we think He would be faithful to us who merely tap into the blessing aspect of that covenant (Gen. 12:3)?

**Slide # 26**



BURN MY FLAG  
 STEAL MY LAND  
 BOYCOTT MY PRODUCTS  
 REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE ME  
 CREATE LIES ABOUT ME  
 TRY TO EXTERMINATE ME  
 TRY TO REWRITE MY HISTORY  
 DENY MY RIGHT TO PRAY  
 ON MY OWN TEMPLE MOUNT  
 BUT I AM HERE TO STAY...  
 I AM ISRAEL

**30 For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience,**

We as believing Gentiles were once lost in rebellious unbelief but now have experienced the mercy of God on account of Israel's disobedience (cf. Eph. 2:2; 5:6; Heb. 4:6).

**Slide # 27**

**Acts 13:46 (NKJV)**

**46** Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but **since you reject it**, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, **we turn to the Gentiles.**

Paul throughout Romans makes the response of faith one of obedience or disobedience. He starts the letter in Romans 1:5 by saying his whole apostleship was "for obedience to the faith among all nations". To walk in unbelief is to walk in disobedience.

But now the believing Gentiles have obtained mercy on account of the Jews disobedience.

**Slide # 28****Romans 10:16 (NKJV)**

**16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed our report?”

**Romans 10:21 (NKJV)**

**21** But to Israel he says: “All day long I have stretched out My hands To a disobedient and contrary people.”

In verse 30 Paul is again repeating what he has already brought out in verses 11, 12, 15, and 28; namely that the Gentiles have now received mercy on account of Israel’s unbelief.

It is interesting that Paul at this point contrasts disobedience with mercy received. Disobedience requires mercy if one is to be saved. God extends an offer of mercy to the disobedient through the gospel which is appropriated by faith. Mercy is the idea of compassion or pity on those hurting or in a miserable condition.

Both mercy and grace are aspects of God’s underserved favor. However, the nuance is different. Grace emphasizes God’s favor in the forgiveness of sin while mercy emphasizes God’s compassion on us in our miserable state and which brings about relief. Mercy brings about relief from misery. For example, in Matt. 9:27 two blind men cried out for mercy (relief) from their affliction of blindness. In Matthew 15:22 a woman cried out for mercy (relief) for her demon possessed daughter and so forth. So mercy is the idea of compassion or pity that brings about relief from a miserable condition. In our sin we are in a miserable condition. We need mercy.

The Gentile history of the world can be summed up in the phrase “disobedient to God” but now as Christians our position is “yet have now obtained mercy”. But this came to us through the disobedience of the Jews which continues Paul’s theme as developed throughout the chapter.

**31 even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy.**

This is a great leveling statement...

**Slide # 29**

Gentiles' disobedience – mercy

Israel's disobedience - mercy

God has worked through Israel's disobedience to bring mercy to the Gentiles. But in turn God is now working through the provoking ministry of the Gentiles so that He might have mercy on Israel.

**32 For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.**

Note that little word “all”. God has ALL in view. His plan involves all. This has been Paul's emphasis throughout the book.

**Slide # 30**

**Romans 3:9 (NKJV)**

**9** What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged **both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.**

**Romans 3:22 (NKJV)**

**22** even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, **to all and on all who believe.** For there is no difference;

**Slide # 31**

**Romans 10:12 (NKJV)**

**12** For there is **no distinction** between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is **rich to all who call upon Him.**

**Romans 11:32 (NKJV)**

**32** For God **has committed them all to disobedience,** that He **might have mercy on all.**

God's plan is BIGGER than the Jews thought. It included the Gentiles. God's plan is BIGGER than the Gentiles may think. It includes being merciful in the completion of His program with Israel.

**People in today's world** talk a lot about being on “**the right side of history**”. What they mean is that certain actions, ideas, or movements aligned with so called progress, justice, or morality, as defined by the world will be viewed favorably by future generations looking back on historical events.



However, the entire worldview of the world is totally skewed! In their depravity, they tend to call evil good and good evil (Isa. 5:20). For many being on the so called right side of history is to be on the wrong side of God for all eternity!

You know where I want to be? I want to be on the right side of the Bible, on the right side of Israel, on the right side of God. And being on the right side of God means that I bless Israel. It's still in the Bible, and it is still true – those who curse Israel are cursed, and those who bless Israel are blessed.

In Genesis 12:3 God said to Abraham...

**Genesis 12:3 (NKJV)**

**3** I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

That still holds true!

But note that last part that says, “***in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.***” From the beginning God has made provision in His plan for all peoples.

Four times in verses 30-32 we have an emphasis on disobedience and four times we have an emphasis on God's mercy concluding with an emphasis on mercy on all. God is a merciful God. He delights in being merciful to miserable and undeserving ones on a universal scale.

The emphasis here is on God's MERCY! As emphasized in Romans 9 mercy is totally according to God's prerogative (Rom. 9:15-18). We as sinners have no claim on God. There is no reason or basis that we should receive His mercy – other than He wants to show mercy. And that is true across the board for both Jews and Gentiles – it is true in reference to all people!

What [Romans 11:32] is saying is this: having found both Jews and Gentiles disobedient, God is pictured as imprisoning them both in that condition, so that there would be no way out for them except on His terms. – ***William MacDonald***

Thankfully God is a MERCIFUL God and has made a way out through the Lord Jesus Christ and faith in Him! His terms are Jesus – His terms are faith in Jesus – and again this is true for all people!

**Acts 4:12 (NKJV)**

**12** Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

And that name is Jesus!

**Slide # 32**

**Galatians 3:22 (NKJV)**

**22** But the Scripture has confined **all under sin**, that the promise **by faith** in Jesus Christ might be given **to those who believe**.

God has so worked that “He might have mercy on all” but as Paul showed back in Romans 2:4 there is such a thing as despising the goodness of God. Mercy spurned is mercy denied! And mercy denied results in hardening!

**Hebrews 3:7–8 (NKJV)**

**7** Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today, if you will hear His voice,  
**8** Do not harden your hearts...”

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved!