

GOD REMAINS FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES

God will remain forever faithful to His promises made to Israel and His church.

God Is Not Finished with Israel

All Israel Shall be Saved

Romans 11:26-27 *And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: (27) For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.*

This Old Testament reference comes from Isaiah 59:20-21.

Isaiah 59:20-21 (KJV) And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD. (21) As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.

Fits with Septuagint translation better than the Masoretic translation.

Isaiah 59:20-21 (Brenton) And the deliverer shall come for Sion's sake, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. (21) And this shall be my covenant with them, said the Lord; My Spirit which is upon thee, and the words which I have put in thy mouth, shall never fail from thy mouth, nor from the mouth of thy seed, for the Lord has spoken it, henceforth and for ever.

Here in Romans 11:26, and Isaiah 59:20 the deliverer turns the ungodliness away from the people; instead of the people turning away from ungodliness.

Paul declares that *all Israel shall be saved*.

By all Israel being saved, Paul means the individual salvation of each member of the nation Israel living at the time of the second Advent. (Wuest's Word Studies)

Zechariah 13 speaks of this national cleansing of sin and the salvation of Israel.

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 13:8-9 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. (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.

In that day, refers to the *Day of the Lord* which begins with the seven year tribulation period. The *Seventieth Week of Daniel*.

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

God will bring one third of the nation Israel through the Great Tribulation (the remnant that we have seen all through chapters 9-11). That one third will call on the Lord and He will save them.

God Keeps His Promises

Romans 11:28-29 *As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. (29) For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.*

At present, concerning the preaching of the gospel to the Gentiles, Israel is the enemy of God.

Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel,

until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

Concerning the fathers of Israel, with whom God made His covenant, Israel is the elect of God.

Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: (2) And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: (3) And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

At the beginning of this section (Chapters 9-11), we raised the question; "In light of God's apparent rejection of Israel, can God be trusted to keep His promises to the church?" Verse 29 is a sufficient answer. God doesn't go back on a promise. God is faithful to fulfill His promises to Israel and the church.

No One is Saved Apart from the Mercy of God

Romans 11:30-32 For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: (31) Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. (32) For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

In the past the Gentiles did not believe God, but now they are obtaining the mercy of God through Israel's unbelief.

Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

At present Israel is in unbelief, but will obtain the mercy of God in the future through the mercy shown to the Gentiles.

Romans 11:11 I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.

Therefore, God has concluded every individual, Jew and Gentile in unbelief that He might show mercy to both Jew and Gentile.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

This unbelief is more than a doubt in the mind, it is a willful disobedience toward God.

"The words "not believed" and "unbelief" are apeitheo, "not to allow one's self to be persuaded, not to comply with, to refuse or withhold belief, to be disobedient, to refuse belief and obedience." It speaks of a stubborn, stiff-necked attitude. (Wuest's Word Studies)

Unbelief Separates us from God

Unbelief is the sin that will separate people from God for eternity in Hell.

John 3:14-19 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: (15) That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. (16) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (18) He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (19) And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

It isn't the sinful deeds that one commits that sends them to Hell. Believers commit sinful deeds

from time to time. Jesus paid for all of our sinful deeds.

1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Sinful Deeds and the Believer

Those of us who have placed faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior have been moved from the realm of willful disobedience to God into the realm of obedience to God.

Romans 6:15-18 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. (16) Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? (17) But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. (18) Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

It is our belief, or faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord that saves us.

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 1:16-17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. (17) For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

The believer does not continually live a life of sinful deeds in willful disobedience to God. When the believer sins it isn't generated from within because the new creature that he or she is in Christ can't sin.

1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

The sinful deeds that a believer commits come from the leftovers of our sinful flesh that is still with us through the members of our sin marred bodies that are destined to die.

Romans 7:21-25 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. (22) For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: (23) But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. (24) O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? (25) I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

So then, the believers desire is to serve God.

Sinful Deeds and the Unbeliever

Likewise, the unbeliever has no desire to serve God, but rather willfully and continually lives committing one sinful deed after another as an act of willful disobedience to God.

Romans 1:18-32 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; (19) Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. (20) For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: (21) Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. (22) Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, (23) And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. (24) Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts,

to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: (25) Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. (26) For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: (27) And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. (28) And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; (29) Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, (30) Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, (31) Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: (32) Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Only Saved by the Mercy of God

Romans 9:22-24 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: (23) And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, (24) Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

Ephesians 2:4-10 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, (5) Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) (6) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: (7) That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. (8) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast. (10) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Doxology

Romans 11:33-36 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! (34) For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? (35) Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? (36) For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

This section started in chapter 9 introducing the difficult teaching of predestination and election. It ends with praise to God for His wisdom and knowledge that even if we can't comprehend these the things of God, we can trust that He always does the right thing.

Everything generates from God, and it all is worked out by His power, only to return to Him for His glory forever. A-men.