

XL. God's Promises to Israel not Canceled - Pt 1 God's Partial Setting Aside of Israel

A. God is faithful and can be trusted

1. Repeated truth in Scripture - Jos 23:14; 1Sa 12:22; 1 Kgs 8:55-56; Ps 31:5; Jo 17:17; Tit 1:2; Heb 12:23

2. Consider the New Covenant - Jer 31:31-37

a. Made with "the house of Israel and with the house of Judah" -vs 31

b. Contents deal with what He will do so that they can truly be His people - vs 32-34

c. the only way He will not accomplish this is listed in vs 35-37

d. Since the conditions of vs 35-37 have not been fulfilled,

i. if God does not fulfill vs 31-34 for Israel,

ii. if the New Covenant and all the promises of God to Israel of a future kingdom with them being elevated among the nations becomes spiritualized and applied to the church, then...

iii. you can not trust Him with your salvation

3. I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not!

a. *apothomai* - push off, reject, cast away, put away (from), thrust away (from).

i. middle voice indicating thrusting away from oneself

ii. due to the rejection of the Messiah, God temporarily sets Israel aside "until the fullness of the Gentiles" - Ro 11:25

iii. afterward "all Israel will be saved" - 11:26, the New Covenant will be implemented - vs 27

b. Certainly not! - *me genoito* - may it never be, the strongest negative in the Greek language

B. The Truth about Paul - vs 1b - First Proof

1. For I also am an Israelite,

a. not mentioned - the vast number of believers in the church were Jews

b. Paul's conversion after being the most radical persecutor of the church shows that God saves Israelites

2. of the seed of Abraham, - not a proselyte to Judaism, a Jew by birth - 2Co 11:22

3. of the tribe of Benjamin. - Php 3:4-6

C. The Truth about the Remnant - vs 2-7a - Second Proof

1. God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew.

a. cast away - See A3a above

b. *proginosko* - to know beforehand, foresee--foreknow (ordain), know (before).

i. not simply knowing before hand, but determining it will come to pass

ii. Also carries the idea of intimacy

iii. Peter describes their delivery of Jesus to die as the predetermined plan of God - Ac 2:23

c. Israel, The only nation that God has Foreknown / predetermined as His people

2. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying,

- a. Elijah's Complaint - "LORD, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life"? - 1Ki 19:10,14
- b. divine response - *chrematismos* - divine response, revelation, answer of God.
 - i. "I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." - 1Ki 19:18
 - ii. To Isaiah - God said that most of his hearers would not listen or repent, only a small remnant would remain

3. Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace. - vs 5-7a; Ro 9:27

- a. election of grace - *ekloge* - (divine) selection, chosen, election.
 - i. of grace - not by works of righteousness - vs 6; Ro 4:4-5; Ga 5:4; Tit 3:5
 - ii. otherwise work is no longer work - believed to be a copier's not that found its way into the text

d. What then?

- i. Israel has not obtained what it seeks;
 - *epizeteo* - to search (inquire) for; to demand, to crave, desire, enquire, seek (after, for).
 - Jews of Paul's day were radically religious with a focus on their own righteousness - Ro 10:2-3
- ii. but the elect have obtained it, (graciously)

D. The Truth about Revelation - vs 7b-10 - Third Proof

1. and the rest were blinded.

a. *poroo* - to petrify, to indurate (render stupid or callous):-- blind, harden. - passive voice - caused by an outside force

b. Just as it is written: "God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see And ears that they should not hear, To this very day." - De 29:4; Isa 29:10; Jer 5:21; Eze 12:2; Mt 13:14; Jo 12:40; Ac 28:26-27; 2Co 3:14

2. This time quoting David:

a. "Let their table become a snare and a trap, A stumbling block and a recompense to them. Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see, and bow down their back always."- Ps 69:22-23

- i. Ps 69 is the most quoted Messianic Ps lamenting His suffering in the NT
- ii. An Imprecatory Psalm pronouncing a curse on the enemies of God

b. Their table

- i. thought to be a place of safety, feasting, and sustenance
- ii. For the ungodly and self-righteous, it will be a snare
- iii. The Torah was their spiritual sustenance - but b/c of the unbelief, it became a stumbling block and a recompense
- iv. b/c the refused to see, their eyes were darkened
- v. bow down their back - like a blind person groping for their way