The Letter of Paul to the Romans – Chapter 11

Has God cast away His people?

No! His rejection of Israel is not total (v. 1-10) \Rightarrow "...there is a remnant according to the election of grace". (v. 5)

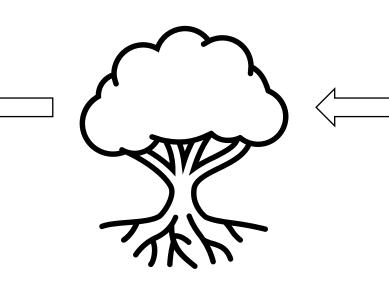
No! His rejection of Israel is not final (v. 11-27)

⇒"...blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel shall be saved..." (v. 25-26)

The Olive Tree

The severity of God

The natural branches (Israel) were broken off because of unbelief (v.20)



If the root is holy [separated to God] so are the branches (v.16)

God is able to graft them in again

if they do not continue in unbelief (v.23)

The goodness of God

Branches from the wild olive tree (Gentiles) were grafted in through faith (v.17)

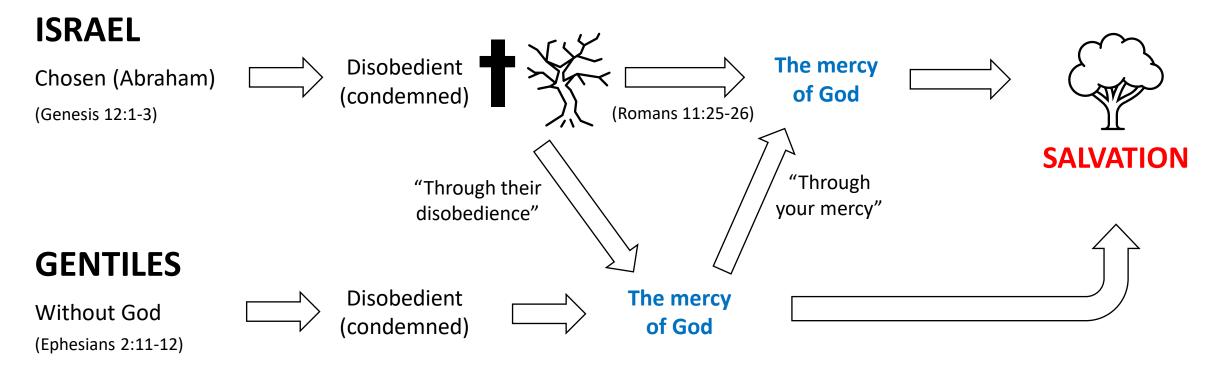
Do not boast!

You do not support the root, but the root supports you (v.18)

Do not become proud, but fear! You stand by faith (v.20)

The Mystery of Israel

Concerning the gospel they are **enemies** for your sake, but concerning the election they are **beloved** for the sake of the fathers. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (Romans 11:28-29)



For as you [*Gentiles*] were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their [*the Jew's*] disobedience, even so these [*the Jews*] also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you [*Gentiles*] they [*the Jews*] also may obtain mercy. For God has committed them all [*both Jews and Gentiles*] to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all [*both Jews and Gentiles*]. (Romans 11:30-32)

Two questions arise but remain unanswered:

1. In what way will the salvation of Israel be "life from the dead"? (v. 15)

2. What role (if any) will the Gentiles have in the conversion of Israel? (v. 11, 14, 31)

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

"For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?"

"Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?"

For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

(Romans 11:33-36)

Romans 12

"I beseech you therefore..."