

## **The Remnant of Israel** **Romans 11:1-12**

Romans 11 can be a hard chapter in the Bible to get excited about. When you read Romans 11, it can feel like – it's Israel in the past and Israel in the future. This is nothing but Israel. How does this relate to me in today's world living in the USA?

Here are three valuable lessons from Romans 11:

1. What God does on a **national level**, sometimes shows us what God is willing to do on an individual level. God's faithfulness to His covenant promises made to Israel is a clear example of God's faithfulness to His covenant promises to you.
2. **Romans 11 gives you hope for today**. We need Romans 11 today to be reminded that the prevailing cultural evaluation of Christianity doesn't matter in terms of God building His kingdom. The God of the Bible is not limited by or intimidated by the events of the world. That helps us today.
3. Romans 11 also tells that **the Bible is not a book about you**. You are not specifically mentioned in Romans 11 and that reminds us that the Bible is not written ABOUT you; it is written FOR you.

*How about a few more reasons why Romans 11 is important to you today:*

1. If God's Word fails to Israel then God is not glorious.
2. If God's Word fails to Israel then God is not good.
3. If God's Word fails to Israel then God is not God and you are not saved.

Big Hint in understanding Romans 11 – pay attention to the remnant of Israel.

The presence of God's people inside of a nation that stands in rebellion against God is another clear display of the power of God. When it looks like the wrong side is winning, remember this: God can use the advancement of those who oppose Him to achieve His purposes.

This leads to a hard lesson on a personal level:

As a Christian, don't forget this, God doesn't need you to win in order for Him to win.

### **Home Group Discussion Questions:**

1 Read Romans 11:1-12.

What does this passage teach us about God?

What does this passage teach us about humanity?

2. Ever felt alone? Ever felt as if God were silent? Ever felt that you were the only one?

Read Isaiah 10:20-22. How does the Biblical reality of a remnant help you?

What does a remnant say about God? About people?

3. Discuss the concept of God working on the national level and the individual level, sometimes at the same time. Could this be a possible reason why we don't understand how things go sometimes?

4. Does it help you to know about God's faithfulness in the past to His people?

Perhaps this past faithfulness is seen in the great crowd of witnesses. Read Hebrews 12:1-2

Where in the Bible have you found encouragement from those who witnessed God's faithfulness?