

**All Israel Will Be Saved**  
**Romans 11:11-27**

This is a long passage that has a very clear and simple pattern. Your understanding of this chapter will be greatly enhanced by understanding the pattern.

The clear and simple pattern in Romans 11 regarding humanity's response to the gospel is this:

**Jews reject. Gentiles accept. Jews return.**

We see that pattern in v11-12 and again in v15 and again in v17-23 and in v25-26

**Jews reject. Gentiles accept. Jews return.**

Paul stretches out this plan to its fullest extent in the section, 11:30-32.

The four stages in God's redemptive plan that I first saw spelled out by John Piper:

1. The stage of Gentile disobedience.

God allowed the nations to go their own way and chase their own desires and put the rebellion in their hearts on full display for the history of humanity to see. During this time, God wrote a manual on how to do life and how to be right with God through His law, the writings, and the prophets.

2. The stage of Jewish disobedience.

This might seem like all of the OT but the portion of Jewish disobedience that led to the next stage is more specific than all of the OT. This is the time that begins with their rejection of the Messiah and God gave them up to do what their hard hearts desired to do. We are in this time right now.

3. The time of mercy given to Gentiles.

The gospel has gone to many, many countries and has reached millions and millions of people. This stage began at the same time of the Jewish disobedience. This stage began with the crucifixion/resurrection of Jesus and the creation of the Church. We are also in this stage right now. We will remain in this stage until the full number of Gentiles has come to faith in Jesus, 11:25.

4. The time of mercy given to the Jews.

God completes His redemptive plan by taking away the hardening extended to Israel and Israel as a people group is reached, 11:26a.

That explains a lot.

Due to the power and the pervasiveness of sin, there has never been a period of time with perfect obedience or total redemption of a nation or group of people. Even when a majority of people were disobedient to God, He still had a remnant of faithful believers.

The disobedience is purposeful on God's part and the purpose is to display God's mercy. That means these stages of disobedience are by God's design. They are not accidental. They are not the result of a world spinning out of control. God is sovereign. All of history is moving in the direction of God's plan.

God's patience allows God's mercy to be put on full display.

God's mercy is most clearly seen in Jesus saving people from sin, satan, death and wrath.

In this way, the cross of Christ shines a bright light on the glory of God.

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

This is a long passage of Scripture, but it will help you to read it again, Rom 11:11-32 and give some discussion time to what this passage says about God and about people.

1. Is there any aspect of God's grace that causes you to marvel?
2. Has your appreciation for your salvation waned in recent years?
3. The temporary nature of widespread disobedience/rejection of the gospel by the Jewish nation is not something Paul made up. Jesus spoke of this...

*Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.*

Luke 21:24b

Then there's this statement from Paul:

*All Israel will be saved.* Rom 11:26

It seems clear that God is sovereign over the nations. God raises up one nation and He brings down another. The way God can do that is He moves the hearts of people.

All of that hardness and people movement occurs under the watchful eye of a sovereign God.

*Does this encourage you to pray for people more?*

*Does this motivate you to pray for entire nations?*

4. How can knowing about God's sovereignty help you on an everyday basis?