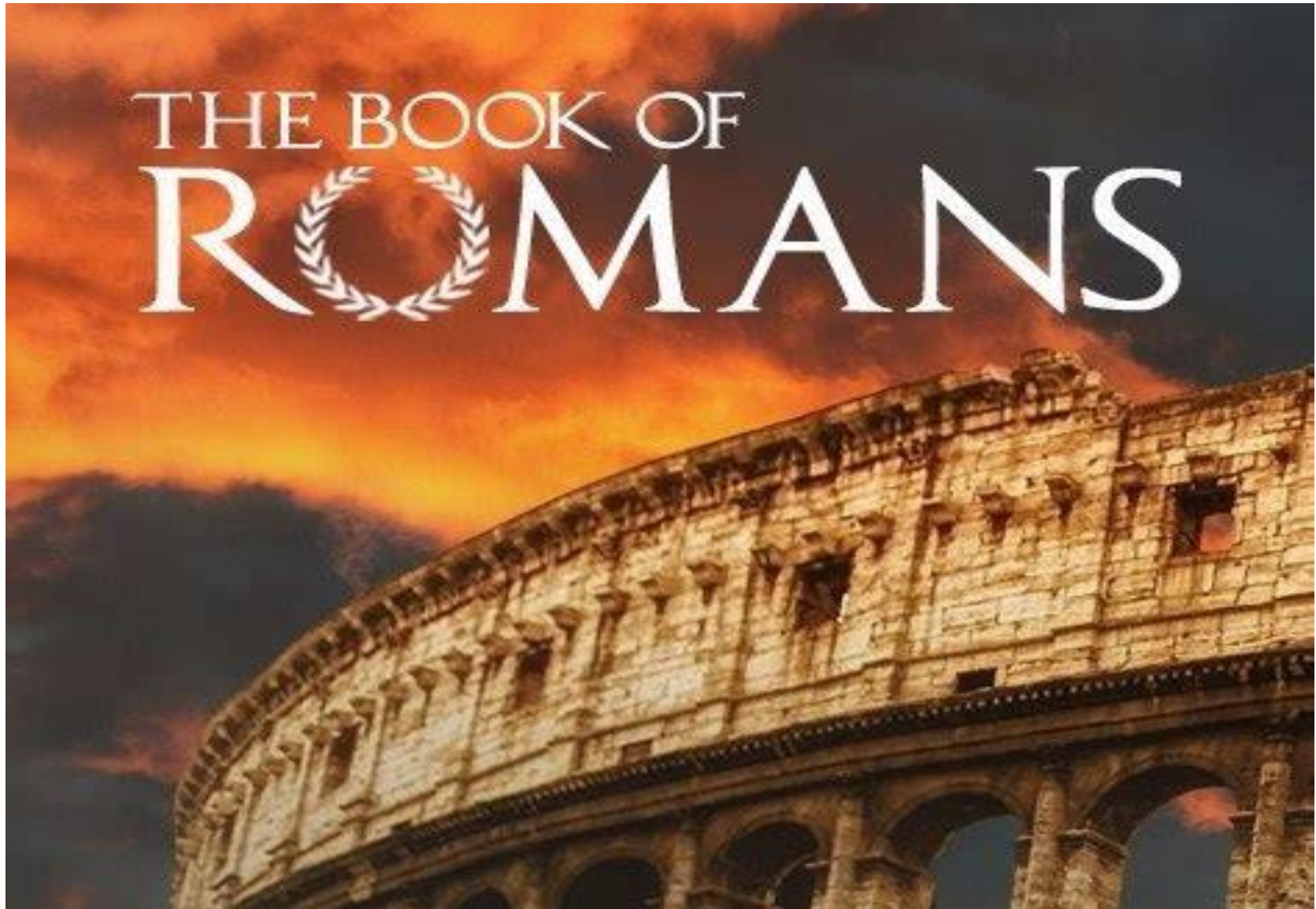


Rom 11:7-10 National Israel Is Judicially Hardened



Romans 11:1-12 Outline*



Idea: Israel is hardened nationally, but only temporarily

11:1 A major issue raised and answered: God has not permanently cast away Israel

11:2 - 4 Examples: Paul's conversion, Elijah and the 7000

11:5 - 6 A remnant of Jews in Paul's day and "The Election of Grace" Defined

11:7-10 National Israel is judicially hardened

11:11-12 National Israel's judicial hardness is temporary

* Edited Merryman₂

Last Week's Verses



⁵ In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time **a remnant** according to *God's* gracious choice.

⁶ But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.

⁵ In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to *God's* gracious choice.



so then, also in the present time a remnant according to a selection of grace has come into being

Interlinear

so then or therefore thus - so what follows is a conclusion

also in the present time [tells us when the remnant has come into being]

present – the present time started in Paul's day up to our current day [the Church age]

time - *kairos* - a fixed or definite period, a season

- The time to which Paul had reference was a strategic one, one marked by the inclusion of the Gentiles together with the Jew in the one Body of Christ.

Wuest

⁵ In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to *God's* gracious choice.



remnant – *limma* - the verb form is *leipō*, “to leave”

- Thus, a remnant is that which is left. The word refers here to that group in Israel which was left, so to speak, out of the general apostasy. Wuest
- The remnant is the believing few. McCalley

has come into being – *ginomai* – to come into a new state of being

- perfect tense – past completed action with abiding results
- There was a remnant in the past and there continues to be one up into the present and on into the future.
- The idea is that of permanence.

⁵ In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice.



according to a selection of grace

Interlinear

- this phrase tell us how a remnant came into being since it modifies the verb *ginomai* [has come into being]
- **according to** - *kata* – according to a norm or standard
- the norm or standard is **a selection of grace**

selection - *eklogē* - a picking out, choosing, election (KJV)

- grace is the basis of selection (election)*
- the election is of grace*
- it is election that looks to grace*

*Merryman

⁵ In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to God's gracious choice.



more on “**election of grace:**”

1 Peter 1:2a (KJV) **Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father**, through sanctification of the Spirit.

- so both God's grace and foreknowledge are involved in His election of a remnant and of every believer
- foreknowledge anticipates faith*
- foreknowledge knows the ones that will respond to God's grace through faith*
- God's foreknowledge does not cause one to believe
- once a person believes, then the Bible says he is elected

* Merryman

⁶ But if **it is** by grace, **it is** no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.



- now in verse 6, Paul will now elaborate on what “a selection [election] of grace” means

a. But if **it is** by grace

- **it** = a selection [election] of grace
- so an election of grace is gracious*
- so God’s election is always by grace*

b. **it is** no longer on the basis of works

no longer - *ouketi* - an adv. meaning no more, no further*

of - *ek* – out of as a source

lit: election is no longer out of work as a source *Merryman

⁶ But if ***it is*** by grace, ***it is*** no longer on the basis of **works**, **otherwise grace is no longer grace**.



b. *it is* no longer on the basis of works (cont.)

Rom 3:20a because by **the works** of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight.

c. otherwise grace is no longer grace

is – *ginomi* – to become, come into a new state of being

- lit: grace has become no longer grace*
- if you mix grace and works, then grace is destroyed*
- works is the destroyer of grace*
- If blessing is received on the basis of works, forget about grace.*

*McCalley

The two, Grace and Works, are incompatible, irreconcilable:*



grace - God acting sovereignly and compatibly with His essence without the merits of mankind in view

works – man seeking blessing from God on the basis of human merit

- Note the following **salvation-election logic** in Romans:
- Chp 11:6 Election is compatible with grace (work is not)
- Chp 4:4,5,16 Faith is compatible with grace (work is not)
- Conclusion: Faith is compatible with election (faith, therefore is not a work)
- Faith is a non-meritorious response to grace provision
- God expects [desires] a faith response by human beings to His gospel message.

* Merryman

Today's Verses



⁷ What then? What Israel is seeking, it has not obtained, but those who were chosen obtained it, and the rest were **hardened**;

⁸ just as it is written, "GOD GAVE THEM A SPIRIT OF STUPOR, EYES TO SEE NOT AND EARS TO HEAR NOT, DOWN TO THIS VERY DAY."

⁹ And David says, "LET THEIR TABLE BECOME A SNARE AND A TRAP, AND A STUMBLING BLOCK AND A RETRIBUTION TO THEM.

¹⁰ "LET THEIR EYES BE DARKENED TO SEE NOT, AND BEND THEIR BACKS FOREVER."



7 What then? What Israel is seeking, it has not obtained but those who were chosen obtained it, and the rest were hardened;

Rom 6:15 **What then?** Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be!

What then? or
What shall we conclude?

- Paul uses this expression 6 times in Romans:

What Israel is seeking?

seeking - *epizēteō* - to seek after in “the present tense”

- So then we have Israel continually seeking
- Paul will now expand on **this seeking** next

this it did not obtain

Wuest

this – in context it is “God’s righteousness”

it – Israel

obtain - *epitugchánō* - attain one's aim, acquire

7 What then? What Israel is seeking, it has not obtained but those who were chosen obtained it, and the rest were hardened;



- so, God's righteousness Israel did not obtain
- from many passages we have seen Israel was seeking God's righteousness by the works of the Law - Rom 3:20
- Also verse 7 ties back to Rom 10:3 For not knowing about God's righteousness and **seeking to establish their own**, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Constable

but the elect obtained it

Interlinear

it = God's righteousness

elect - *eklogē* - a picking out, choosing – same as in verse 5



7 What then? What Israel is seeking, it has not obtained but those who were chosen obtained it, and the rest were hardened;

- So God's **elect** did obtain His righteousness
- Rom 4:13 For the promise to Abraham --- was not through the Law, but through **the righteousness of faith.**
- again, election is compatible with faith Merryman

and the rest were hardened

the rest - the remaining Israelites

were hardened - *pōroō* - to make hard, callous, to petrify is used metaphorically, of the man's heart (aorist tense, passive voice)

- remaining Israel received God's action of hardening

Wuest on hardened:



- The Greek word translated "**hardened**" (*pōroō*) is not the same one Paul used in 9:18 (*skleryno*).
- The one he used in 9:18 simply pictures a hardening.
- The one he uses here in v.7 describes hardening with the result that the hardness renders the person more difficult to get through to (or to reach) from then on.
- It is as though a callus built up over the Israelites that made them less sensitive to God.
- Then God hardened Pharaoh's heart by forcing him to an issue which he did not want to meet. The more God demanded that he let Israel go, the more Pharaoh rebelled. The more he rebelled, the harder his heart became.
- So with Israel. Israel rejected God and His Word, and the more it did so the harder its heart became. **Light rejected, blinds.**

⁸ just as it is written, "GOD GAVE THEM A SPIRIT OF STUPOR, EYES TO SEE NOT AND EARS TO HEAR NOT, DOWN TO THIS VERY DAY."



Next, we have the results of the hardening on Israel !

just as it is written in - perfect passive

- It was written in the past, continues, and still stands written into the present and on into the future.

God gave: God is the cause of what is happening!

them a spirit of stupor

stupor - *katanyxis* – it signified a dulling in a spiritual sense

- God gave them a spirit of stupor because they failed to respond to the numerous blessings that He bestowed on them.

Constable

⁸ just as it is written, "GOD GAVE THEM A SPIRIT OF STUPOR, EYES TO SEE NOT AND EARS TO HEAR NOT, DOWN TO THIS VERY DAY."



The remainder of this verse describes this spirit of stupor:

eyes to see not and ears to hear not,
down to this very day

- The quotation in this verse is a combination of Deut 29:4 and Isa 29:10. Constable
- Deut 29:4 "Yet to this day the LORD has not given you a heart to know, **nor eyes to see, nor ears to hear.**
- Isa 29:10 For the LORD has poured over you a spirit of deep sleep, **He has shut your eyes**, [you] the prophets; And **He has covered your heads**, [you] the seers.



⁹ And David says, "LET THEIR TABLE BECOME A SNARE AND A TRAP, AND A STUMBLING BLOCK AND A RETRIBUTION TO THEM.

and David says – includes verses 9 and 10

- This is quoted from David, in Ps. 69:22, and evidently refers to the “**table**” at which the Israelites were privileged to eat with Jehovah. Newell

let their table become

table – this is the subject!

[let it] **become** – *ginomi* – to become, come into a new state of being – an imperative

- For the “**table**” of the Israelite was connected by Jehovah with Himself. Certain things the Israelite might eat, others not; because the Israelites were a Holy nation unto Jehovah. Newell



⁹ And David says, "LET THEIR TABLE BECOME A SNARE AND A TRAP, AND A STUMBLING BLOCK AND A RETRIBUTION TO THEM."

So now Israel's table becomes as follows:

a. snare - *pagisa* - a noose, used of snares in which birds are entangled. It refers to whatever brings peril, loss or destruction.

Ps 69:22 May **their table** before them become **a snare**; and when they are in peace, may it become **a trap**.

b. trap – *thēran* – used in hunting of wild beasts to destroy them, thus, of preparing destruction for men Wuest

c. stumbling block - *skandalon* - anything becomes a hindrance to others, or causes them to fall by the way

d. retribution - to repay - The present condition of the Jewish nation is the retaliatory effect of their transgressions.

Because that which was designed as a blessing "**their table**" has become a means of judgment. Vine

10 "LET THEIR EYES BE DARKENED TO SEE NOT,
AND BEND THEIR BACKS FOREVER."



Let be darkened the eyes of them not to see and
their back of them continually let bend

Interlinear

a. the eyes of them - let be darkened not to see

let be darkened - skotizō - to deprive of light, to make dark
- metaphorically, of the mind Vine

Ps 69:23a May their eyes grow dim so that they cannot see

b. their back of them - continually let bend

let bend – *sankamptō* - to bend together as of captives
whose backs were bent under burdens Wuest

Ps 69:2b And make their loins shake continually

Final Thoughts*



- Even though as a whole, Israel had reaped the fruit of her own stubborn rebellion against God,
- God had called a remnant within the nation for salvation.
- The presence of this remnant shows that God has not cast off His chosen people completely or been unfaithful to His promises to them.

* Constable