

Sermon Title: The Promise of Israel's Restoration

Sermon Text: Romans 11:25-32

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to understand and appreciate the Sovereignty of God in salvation.

Sermon Proposition: There are 3 reflections of God's sovereignty and glory shared by Paul.

- I. Glorify God in light of His sovereignty to keep promises. V.25-27
- II. Glorify God in light of His integrity to keep promises. V.28-29
- III. Glorify God in light of His generosity to keep promises. V.30-32

Introduction: God's overriding purpose in doing what He has done is to glorify Himself. The supreme benefit of God's redemptive plan, both for Jews and Gentiles, is to bring salvation and eternal life. The Westminster Catechism: "The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." Because mankind's supreme purpose is to recognize and honor God for His glory and majesty, failure to do so is the certain mark of spiritual rebellion and ungodliness. (**Romans 1:18-21; Daniel 4:19-29, 34**)

Acts 12:22-23 And the people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" **23** Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died.

I. Glorify God in light of His sovereignty to keep promises. V.25-27

- A. The 1st promise a mystery has been revealed by God. V.25a
- B. The 2nd promise a partial hardening of Israel designed by God. V.25b
- C. The 3rd promise will continue until the full members of the Gentile comes in. v.25c
The until refers to time period, while fullness indicates completion. The hardening of Israel will last for a divinely determined amount of time. (**Romans 15:16**)
- D. The 4th promise then all Israel will be saved. V.26a-27

The completion of God's sovereign work among the Gentiles, will signal the beginning of events that led to Israel's restoration and redemption. All Israel refers to the nation that survives God's judgment during the Great Tribulation. (**v.17, 25; Ezekiel 20:33-38; Revelation 7:1-8; 14:1-5**)

- 1. The 144,000 witnesses (**Revelation 7:1-18; 14:1-5**)
- 2. The covert witness (**Revelation 7:9**)
- 3. The two witnesses (**Revelation 11:3-13**)
- 4. The angel witness (**Revelation 14:6**)

"God's control of history is undeniable evidence of His sovereignty. And as surely as He cut off unbelieving Israel from His tree of salvation, just as surely will He graft believing Israel back in – as a nation completely restored and completely saved." – John MacArthur Commentary New Testament "Romans 9-16", p. 129

II. Glorify God in light of His integrity to keep promises. V.28-29

Numbers 23:19 "God *is* not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

God's promises are certain and timely. They have been, are, and will be fulfilled in exactly the way and timeframe that the Lord God has determined and declared. No one or nothing can sabotage God's promises and He Himself will not break them. His work is immutable. (**Isaiah 59:20-21; 27:9**)

The promise is based on the integrity of God, to keep His Word. The promise is unconditional. It does not depend on Israel's deciding on its own to come back to the Lord to be restored, but the Lord God sovereignly bringing Israel back to Himself.

III. Glorify God in light of His generosity to keep promises. V.30-32

A. The generosity of mercy from God. V.30

Mercy is from *eleeo*, which carries the idea of having a compassion for those in need that leads to meeting their need. Man's guilt need is to have their sins removed and be given new spiritual life, God's mercy generously provides for both needs.

Psalm 86:5 For You, Lord, *are* good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

Psalm 136:1 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is* good! For His mercy *endures* forever.

1 Kings 3:6 And Solomon said: "You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day.

"Just as God bestows forgiveness, which is not deserved, at the same time He rescinds His punishment, which is deserved." – *Ibid.*, 133

Whether you are a Jew or Gentile, salvation is based on mercy, not merit.

1 Timothy 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry, **13** although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. **14** And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

B. The generosity of mercy in light of man's disobedience. V.31

Disobedience ("unbelief" KJK) is from *apeitheia*, which has the basic meaning of being unpersuadable. It denotes the idea of intentional and obstinate refusal to believe, acknowledge, or obey. (**Ephesians 2:2; 5:6**)

C. The generosity of mercy is shown to all. V.32 (**John 3:16; Romans 5:10; Romans 3:19**)