**Romans Series July 23, 2023**

**God’s Gracious Choice of Israel – Romans 11:1-10**

1. Paul, an Example of God’s **Graciousness to Israel** Romans 11:1

* As Gentiles began to hear and receive the Gospel, God was not cutting out Jews of salvation
* Paul uses himself as an example of one that God called to Himself to be saved

2. God’s Gracious Provision **of a Remnant in Israel** Romans 11:2-4

* As the Lord began to save many Gentiles, the Jews were asking if God had passed over the Israelites for salvation
	+ When God established the nation of Israel through Abraham, there has always been a group of people faithful to the Lord and His calling
	+ These were the people God “foreknew” which means to know ahead of time
	+ Psalm 139:13-16 describes how God knows each one of us before we were conceived
	+ He knows those who are destined for salvation because He is sovereign over all people
	+ In the days of Elijah (1 Kings 17 – 2 Kings 2), many of the Israelites were worshipping the false god Baal

3. God’s Graciousness to Israel **in the 1st Century** Romans 11:5-6

* “In the same way” and “at the present time”
	+ Salvation of all people has always been by and through God’s “gracious choice”
		- Mercy is God not giving what is deserved
		- Grace is the giving what is not deserved, namely, eternal life through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9)
* Salvation is NEVER a result of our own “works” that we do for the Lord

4. God’s Graciousness Revealed to **Moses and David** Romans 11:7-10

* Many Israelites want to boast in their ethnicity to show they are God’s chosen people
	+ God’s people are those who He sets apart to Himself for salvation (see Romans 8:29-30 and Romans 9)
	+ It is by grace through faith that people come to eternal life

God’s Gracious Choice of Israel

* Demonstrated to
	+ Paul (Romans 11:1)
	+ Elijah (Romans 11:2-4)
	+ Jews living in 1st Century AD (Romans 11:5-6)
	+ Moses (Romans 11:7-8)
	+ King David (Romans 11:9-10)

**What does this mean for me?**

* Pray for the peace of Israel and all Jews scattered around the world
	+ Psalm 122:6a
	Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
* Pray for the salvation of the Jewish people
	+ Ask God to draw His people to Jesus so that they might be saved
	+ Ask God to use His missionaries to the Jews to boldly proclaim the Gospel

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