THE BOOK OF ROMANS
"The Indestructible Nation – Prophesied"
Romans 11:26-27

Review
1. To plumb the depths of this chapter is very difficult. However, the general content is evident:
   a. The nation Israel is indestructible vv. 1-6
   b. The nation Israel is blinded vv. 7-10
   c. The nation Israel is provoked vv. 11-15
   d. The nation Israel is planned (has hope) vv. 16-24
   e. The nation Israel is delivered vv. 25-26

2. With this incisive logic of the apostle Paul, under the control of the Holy Spirit, the indestructible nation is vindicated (vv. 26-32). Here is a transcendent witness to the expected goal of God for His own people.

3. Consider what "stands written" (v. 26) in the Bible (Greek: perfect tense, γεγραπται concerning Israel's future.

Note: No hedging is made here. The bold assertion is: "and so all Israel shall be saved." Contextually, the obvious meaning of this phrase is that there will be a future national conversion of Israel as distinct from the present conversion of individual Israelites. The national conversion will come at the end of the seven year Tribulation Period (cf. Dan. 9:24). Such salvation of the nation will be an act of God and not generated by the nation – the future passive verb affirms this (σώθησεται).

1. ISRAEL'S DELIVERER WILL COME v. 26
   The Deliverer is an articular present participle (ὁ ἄνέσθης homoimenos) meaning "to rescue." But this future restoration and deliverance is proved from Scripture (Isa. 59:20, 21; 17:9). Remarkably, the Hebrew term for deliverer (Isa. 59:20) is an obvious reference to Messiah Jesus as analogous Scriptures teach (Lev. 25:25, 48, 49; Ruth 3:12, 13; 4:4-6; Gal. 4:4, 5; Heb. 2:14, 15). Interestingly, the Greek text states the Deliverer will come "out" (ἐκ ek) of Zion. The LXX uses "for the sake of" (ἐνέκειν heneken) Zion and the Hebrew (Isa. 59:20) has "to (ος) Zion. These variant prepositions add to the correct Greek text. There is to be no reason to believe other than what is written: Messiah will come to deliver the nation (Zech. 14:1-4a).

2. ISRAEL'S DELIVERER WILL TURN AWAY v. 26
   The verb "turn away" (ἀποστρέφει apostrepsi) signifies "to remove" (cf. 2 Tim. 4:4). What Messiah will remove from the nation is "ungodliness (ἀπειθείας asebeias), a word meaning exactly that – "impiety" (cf. Ro. 1:18; 2 Tim. 2:16; Titus 2:12 see Jude 15, 18). Moreover, this horrible thought is to be removed from "Jacob," which literally means "heel catcher, supplanter, liar-in wait" (Gen. 25:26; 27:36). No wonder God changed his name to Israel meaning "warrior, soldier of God." If there is any Scripture denoting the infinite grace of God to change a life, this is it. What God did for one man, he will do for a nation. Hallelujah! This incredible action of God is noted in the O.T. (cf. Ezek. 36:25; Zech. 3:1-7). At that time, all will be "holiness unto the Lord" (Zech. 14:20).

3. ISRAEL'S DELIVERER WILL FULFILL v. 27
   There are four Scriptural unconditional covenants in the O.T. which God made with the nation. These are: 1) Abrahamic, Gen. 12:1-3. 2) Territorial, Gen. 15:1-21; Deut. 28:30. 3) Davidic, 2 Sam. 7:1-17. 4) New, Jer. 31:31-37. It is this last one to which reference is made here (cf. Ezek. 36:16-38). Surely God's covenants express unequivocally His Word. Indeed the text of Scripture reads "this is the covenant from Me" (περὶ παρ’ emou). Consequently, all must be fulfilled "to them" i.e. Israel. How more specific can the Bible be? His promises will be as recorded (Amos 9:11-15).

4. ISRAEL'S DELIVERER WILL TAKE AWAY
   The temporal clause (ὁ τὸν ἐκαθαρίζει) does not say when, but it does assert a fact. There is coming a time when the Deliverer—Messiah will "take away" the sins of the nation. The verb is middle voice, expressing personal interest. What a magnificent statement about the Messiah! Scripture states that the blood of bulls and goats cannot "take away" sins, but Messiah will (Heb. 10:4). This is the same verb used of cutting off a man's ear (cf. Mt. 26:51), so its use here makes the Messiah's work for the nation "clean cut" (Isa. 27:9). One must not miss that "sins" is plural (ἀδικίας hamartias) and the prophecy of Daniel 9:24 is also plural (αὐτοῖς). The new covenant is just as firm (Ezek. 36:25).

Conclusion That God does aver the nation Israel as indestructible is patent. The nation will be saved. It is written in Scripture that their current troubles will ultimately come to an end. The Messiah Jesus will intervene and come as their Deliverer. He will keep His covenants with the nation. He will see to their spiritual revival. The Church has the "blessed hope" which is the Rapture (Titus 2:13), but "the Lord will be the hope of His people" (Joel 3:16) which is the Revelation of Messiah at the end of the Tribulation. What hope do you have dear friend? Turn to the Lord Jesus Christ today and you will be ready for the "blessed hope." Amen.