

THE BOOK OF ROMANS"Vindication of Israel Mystery"

Romans 11:27-32

INTRODUCTION

1. No one will ever plumb the depths of Romans 9-11. These three chapters are chock-o-block full of theological, doctrinal, and dispensational issues. The future of Israel as a nation and people of God is largely determined right here in the N.T.
2. God has just held out the possibility of Israel's return to God (vv. 23, 24). Following on this, Scripture gives clear evidence that Israel will be saved (vv. 25, 26). What a tremendous theme! How can it be that some theologians and some Bible students, totally deny the plain sense of God's Word. Let us forever admit that: when the Bible sense makes good sense we are not to seek any other sense.
3. Now how is Israel's future vindicated? Look to the Word for the nation's future is:-

1. HARMONIOUS WITH DIVINE PROPHECY vv. 26, 27a. Deliverer will come v. 26

The quote here is from Isa. 59:20a. Zion is the place of God's glory (Psa. 110:2). The Deliverer is the Goel (so Heb. in Isa. 59:20). Who delivers His weaker brethren, Israel. Obviously, this Deliverer is the Messiah Who comes at the end of the tribulation period (Zech. 14:1-3).

b. Deliverer will turn away ungodliness v. 26

"Ungodliness" is really "impieties" in Hebrew (Isa. 59:20). The fleshly name "Jacob" gives the demonstration of God's grace toward Israel. The truth taught here is that there will be a national cleansing (Ez. 36:25; Zech. 3:1-7). Then will be fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah that all will be "holiness unto the Lord" (14:20).

c. Deliverer will fulfill God's covenant v. 27

There are four Scriptural unconditional covenants in the O.T. which God made with Israel (Abrahamic, Gen. 11; Palestinian, Deut. 28:30; Davidic, 2 Sam. 7; New, Jer. 31). The one referred to here is the New Covenant with Israel (Jer. 31:31-37).

NOTE: The Prophetic word is as sure as the God Who gave it. Hallelujah!

2. HARMONIOUS WITH THE DIVINE PLAN v. 28

Here is a summary verse for all recorded in vv. 11-

24. Consider:-

a. Gospel . . . enemies

What a tremendous truth. Israel is reckoned as "enemies" with God--for whom? The Gentiles i.e. "for your sake." Thus, in order for the Gentiles to get the Gospel, Israel was counted as "enemies." Only an infinite God could conceive of this!

b. Election . . . fathers

Now the nation is still the "chosen ones." Why? Because God has them as "beloved" on account of their fathers i.e. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. The covenant of God with the fathers makes the nation "elect" and "beloved." Hence, they bare ambivalent positions--enemies for the Gospel for the sake of Gentiles and elect beloved ones for the sake of their fathers with whom God had a covenant.

3. HARMONIOUS WITH THE DIVINE PRINCIPLE v. 29

Here is a bald statement that God is incapable of revoking His Word. God's attitude toward Israel is unchangeable. Such immutability! Israel is still the object of God's love. By "gifts" is meant what is listed in 9:4, 5. The "calling" is that Israel is God's chosen people forever.

4. HARMONIOUS WITH THE DIVINE PROVIDENCE vv. 30, 31

The initial "for" (v. 30) indicates how the general principle of the previous verse will be realized by Israel. The Romans were largely Gentiles. Now these Gentiles obtained mercy by the unbelief of the Jews (cf. vv. 11, 12). So now, the Jews have not believed that through the same mercy shown to the Gentiles they might obtain mercy. Gentile disobedience brought God's mercy. Jewish disobedience will bring that same mercy. This will allow the Jew to realize that God's gifts and calling are changeless.

5. HARMONIOUS WITH THE DIVINE PURPOSE v. 32

This verse is really the climax of the whole of Romans. Nothing is richer than God's mercy. All nations--Jews and Gentiles--have been locked up in a prison (so "concluded" in Greek) in order that He might have mercy upon all. This is not universalism for nothing is said about the outcome of outpoured mercy. Universal condemnation leads to universal mercy.

CONCLUSION Whatever God does for Jew or Gentile is all because of His eternal mercy. So be it.

Covenants to Israel

1. Abrahamic - make great nation
2. Palestinian - land
3. Davidic - nation forever
4. New - into Israel's new heart