

## Romans

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### Lesson 14: Romans 11:25–36

God made a covenant with the nation Israel but has set them aside temporarily in order to bring salvation to the Gentiles. Using Paul’s horticulture metaphor in 11:17–24, they are like branches that have been “cut off.” There is a partial hardening that has happened to Israel so that God’s plan would be accomplished. Some might ask, “How long is the nation of Israel going to be cut off?” Paul answers that in our passage before us. Others might ask, “Why did God cut them off in the first place?” Paul also answers that question in our passage before us. The ultimate answer for why God does what He does is for His glory. Let’s dive in and see what God’s plan is for Israel and how God is glorified through it all.

➤ **Read Romans 11:25–27**

1. In verse 25, Paul does not want his believing readers to be uninformed about “this mystery.” According to Ephesians 3:4–7, what is the definition of mystery?
2. According to verse 25, what has happened to Israel? How long will this last?
3. According to verse 26, what is the promise for Israel? How do you think this made Paul feel? (see 9:3; 10:1)
4. In verse 26, who is the Deliverer? What will He do?
5. According to verse 27, why will God “take away their sins”?

6. Read Genesis 15, what did Abraham do to deserve God's covenant?

➤ **Read Romans 11:28–31**

7. In verse 28, what two ways is Israel described?

8. At the end of verse 28, Paul says, “for the sake of the fathers.” Who are the fathers? (see Ex. 2:24)

9. In verse 29, what does Paul say about God's “gifts” and “calling”?

**Application:** Have you even been through a time when you doubted God? Explain. How does verse 29 give you assurance and encourage trust in God?

10. According to verses 30–31, who does Paul use to prove that God will show mercy to Israel?

11. According to verse 32, how does disobedience make mercy shine brighter?

**Application:** If someone were to ask you, “Why would a righteous and omnipotent God allow evil into this world?,” how would you respond?

➤ **Read Romans 11:33–36**

12. After describing God’s amazing mercy in both setting aside Israel and saving Gentiles, and remembering His covenant and saving Israel, Paul breaks out in praise. In verse 33, what are four truths about God that Paul rejoices over?

13. How do verses 34 and 35 show the greatness of God? What does God owe to mankind?

14. In verse 36, Paul shows that God owns all things. How should you respond to this truth?

**Application:** Think back to your own salvation and God’s faithfulness and mercy in your life. Write your own four-line doxology of praise to God for including you in His plan of salvation.

**Application:** What one verse impacted you the most in this study? Explain.