Does Israel Have a Future?

Rom. 11:1-12

- 1. Having explained in Rom. 9 that the nation is now accursed from Christ and that God is carrying out another work in the world to display His power and glory, especially among the Gentiles ...
 - ... and in Rom. 10 that God has provided through Paul's transition period ministry a means of being delivered from the accursed nation and made participants in His new program with the Body of Christ
 - ... in Rom. 11 Paul explains that God is not all done with Israel.

- 2. He picks up on the trail of things that he quotes from Moses in Rom. 9-10:
 - a. Deut. 28—Curses of the Law (Rom. 9:3).
 - b. Lev. 18:5—the person under the Law must do the Law (10:5)
 - c. Deut. 30—The only way for Israel to "do" the Law is to receive it with a heart of faith that leads to the end of the Law for righteousness and falling upon the mercy of the court (10:5-11)
 - d. Deut. 32:21—If Israel didn't "do" this and persisted in rebellious unbelief, God would bring the apostate nation to jealousy by working through a very small believing remnant. What they would view as a "no people" and a "foolish nation." (10:19)

- 3. Now in Rom. 11 he shifts to say God is now doing something similar through his ministry.
 - 4. It was designed to provoke them:
 - a. To jealousy (Rom. 10:19, 11:11; Acts 13:43-45): First through the 12's ministry with Believing Remnant and then through the Gentiles in Paul's ministry with Body of Christ: They have something we want and should have.
 - b. To emulation (Rom. 11:13-14; Acts 15:11): Individual Jews could participate in it by "doing" what the Gentiles do: Believe God's Word to the world for today, which is made known through Paul's preaching.

5. Rom. 11 Outline:

11:1-10: Israel's Present State—cast away but only temporarily, not permanently.

11:11-29: Israel's Future State—she will receive her fulness.

11:30-36: Gentile Arrogance Ruled Out

Paul knows that God is not all done with national Israel because:

11:1-7a: Those who received God's Word in faith:

- v. 1: God raised up Paul, an Israelite, as His messenger extending His Grace and Peace to the whole world.
- v. 2a: God foreknew Israel's rebelliousness and decided to work with them anyway. He's not going to change His mind now.
- vv,2b-5: God graciously preserved a Believing Remnant by faith.
- v. 6-7: God graciously gave them what they needed-Faith Righteousness.

If God hasn't permanently cast away Israel, what has He done with the unbelieving nation?

11:7b-10: For those who reject God's Word in unbelief:

v. 7b-10: God judicially blinded and hardened their hearts. The more they rejected and denied God's Word that He overflowed to them, the more they were hardened and blinded (Rom. 9:17-18)

To end this cycle, God mercifully stopped dealing with Israel so that they would not become even more hardened and blinded in unbelief.