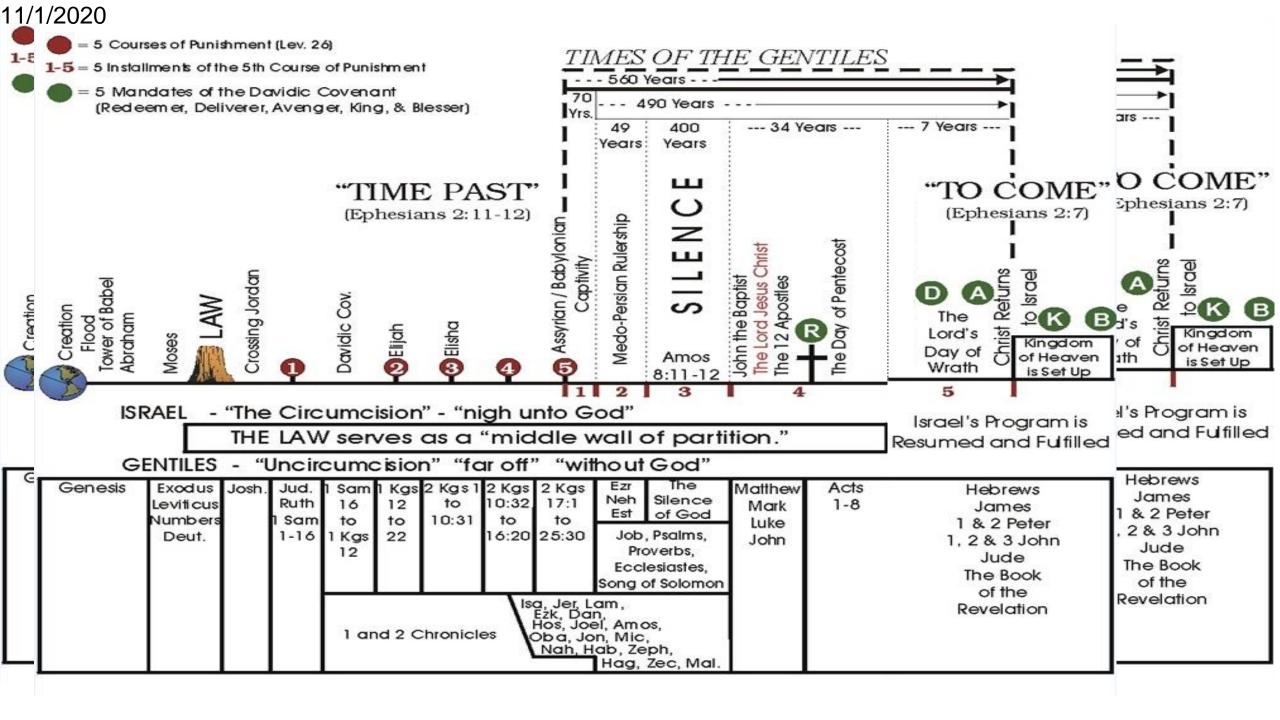
THE DOXOLOGY AND

WHY IN THE WORLD DOES GOD NEED A SECOND GROUP OF BELIEVERS?

Rom. 11:33-36



1. Paul's doxology is a PRAISE FEST of the riches of God's wisdom and knowledge in producing another group of believers while He temporarily sets aside His dealings with the Nation of Israel.

BUT WHY????????

Why did God need to create a second group of redeemed humanity, the Body of Christ, with another apostle, the Apostle Paul, when He already had the Believing Remnant of Israel and the 12?

To answer that, we need to go to Ephesians.

- 2. Since God has ruled out Gentile arrogance in Rom. 11 as an option, how should the Gentiles think about what God is doing today?
 - a. Eph. 2:11-12: Time Past—Gentiles were without Christ, aliens to Israel, excluded from the covenants and promises, without hope and without God in the world. They received God's blessings INDIRECTLY through the Nation of Israel.



TIME PAST: GOD'S PROPHETIC PROGRAM



Believing Remnant Goes Into Storage

BUT NOW: God's Mystery Program

b. Eph. 2:13-22: BUT NOW IN CHRIST—

Jews and Gentiles are united together because they are united to Christ through His work on the Cross. Together believing Jews and Gentiles comprise the Body of Christ, reconciled together in peace, having access to the Father's blessings (the root of the olive tree in Rom. 11 by the Spirit. Now Gentiles receive God's blessings DIRECTLY without having to go through the Nation of Israel.

BUT WHY??????

c. Eph. 3:1-9: The Apostle Paul is God's distinct and unique messenger responsible for dispersing God's Mystery revelation about what He is doing today. You cannot find it anywhere else.

BUT WHY DOES GOD NEED TWO GROUPS OF REDEEMED HUMANITY????

d. Eph. 3:10-11: The Purpose of God's Mystery Program is to put on display the multifaceted wisdom of God to rulers and governments in heavenly places, re-establishing His Glory there.

3. THE DOXOLOGY IN THE LIGHT OF EPH. 3 SHOWS THAT:

- a. God carrying out His Mystery Program in the context of Israel's Fall and future Rise, as revealed to the Apostle Paul is the answer to the despair of Rom. 9:1-3. It doesn't call into question God's faithfulness, righteousness and truthfulness to Israel (Rom. 3:3-7; 9:6, 14) ... It proves and displays them!
 - b. Rom. 11:33a: The Mystery Program plummets the infinite depth of God's Wisdom and Knowledge, a place so deep only the Spirit of God can go there (1 Cor. 2:7-10) and then through the Body of Christ puts it on display before the heavenly powers there (Eph. 3:4-5, 10, 18).

- c. Rom. 11:33b: While Mystery Truth was unsearchable (in any and all human sources of knowledge and even in God's non-Pauline Scriptures, BUT NOW God's desire is that ALL PEOPLE should know it (Eph. 3:1-11):
 - 1. The Risen Lord Jesus Christ gave it to Paul through a direct revelation.
 - 2. Then Paul wrote it down and God the Holy Spirit recorded it in the Scriptures.
 - 3. Then everyone else reads it, beginning with the secondary apostles and prophets (special gifts given during the apostolic age.
 - 4. And the Holy Spirit reveals it to all through Paul's Scriptures.