



God's Glorious, Cosmic Plan Revealed: This Mystery

Pastor Todd Chapman

Sunday, November 20, 2011

ROMANS: **The Righteousness
of God Revealed**



Romans 8:28

[28] And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.



Romans 8:31

[31] What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?



RCC's Vision

To build joy-filled communities of faith whose very existence inspires every individual to live R3...

- r1: A deepening *relationship* with God.
- r2: A life-changing *relationship* with other believers.
- r3: An engaging *relationship* with those yet to believe.



In Romans 9-11 Paul is tackling a particular potential misconception. It could appear that God is not honoring his promises to the Jews because so many are rejecting Jesus. Paul writes these chapters to make it unmistakably clear nothing could be further from the truth. God has an eternal, cosmic plan that He is fulfilling.



Romans 11:11-32

1

Israel's
stumbling
brings
gospel to
Gentiles

2

Gentile
salvation
makes the
Jews
jealous

3

Israel's full
inclusion
brings
greater
riches to all
believers

Jesus
returns

A silhouette of a person standing on a hill, looking up at a sunset sky. The person's right arm is raised. The background shows a horizon with trees and a bright, hazy sky.

Romans 11:25-32

[25] Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. [26] And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, “The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob”; [27] “and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins.”



Romans 11:25-32

[28] As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. [29] For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. [30] For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, [31] so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. [32] For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.



God's Cosmic Plan Revealed: This Mystery

- **A partial hardening has come upon Israel (for an extended period of time most Jews will reject Jesus)**
- **The fullness of Gentiles will come in (all the Gentiles God intends to be saved will be)**
- **All Israel will be saved (all the Jews God intends to be saved will be)**



**A partial hardening has come upon Israel
(for an extended period of time most
Jews will reject Jesus)**



Romans 9:27-29

[27] And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, [28] for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.” [29] And as Isaiah predicted, “If the Lord of hosts had not left us offspring, we would have been like Sodom and become like Gomorrah.”



Romans 9:30-33

[30] What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; [31] but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. [32] Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, [33] as it is written, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”



Romans 10:21

[21] But of Israel he says, “All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people.”

A silhouette of a person standing on a hill, looking up at a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. There are trees on either side of the person.

Romans 11:7-10

[7] What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened, [8] as it is written, “God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day.” [9] And David says, “Let their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them; [10] let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see, and bend their backs forever.”



**The fullness of Gentiles will come in
(all the Gentiles God intends to be saved
will be)**

A silhouette of a person standing on a hill, looking up at a sunset sky. The person's right arm is raised. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. There are trees on either side of the person.

Romans 9:25-26

[25] As indeed he says in Hosea, “Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’ and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’”

[26] “And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’”

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Romans 10:19-20

[19] But I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says, “I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation; with a foolish nation I will make you angry.” [20] Then Isaiah is so bold as to say, “I have been found by those who did not seek me; I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.”

A silhouette of a person standing on a hill, looking up with one hand raised, against a sunset sky. Two trees are visible on either side of the person.

Romans 11:11

[11] So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.



Romans 11:17-24

[17] But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree, [18] do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you. [19] Then you will say, “Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.” [20] That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear.



Romans 11:17-24

[21] For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. [22] Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off. [23] And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. [24] For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive



Romans 11:17-24

tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.



All Israel will be saved (all the Jews God intends to be saved will be)



A silhouette of a person standing on a hill, looking up with one hand raised, against a sunset sky. The scene is framed by two trees on either side.

All Israel...

- Every Jew throughout history
- Every true believer, Jew and Gentile throughout history
- Every elect Jew throughout history
- A large number of Jews at a certain period of time, the very end, right before Jesus' 2nd coming



Romans 11:11-24

[11] So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous. [12] Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean! [13] Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry [14] in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them.

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Romans 11:11-24

[15] For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? [16] If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches. [17] But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree,

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[23] And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. [24] For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.



Paul's support: This plan is...

1. ...alluded to in the Old Testament (11:26-27)
2. ...the result of God's commitment to his election (11:28-29)
3. ...demonstrates God's mercy and fairness, impartiality, God does not have ethnic preferences – Jews and Gentiles are part of the family of God (11:30-32)



Conclusion:

We are a part of an astounding, astonishing, marvelous, magnificent, miraculous, and mind blowing salvation plan of God that gets played out through all of history. God pours out his mercy on the fullness of Jews and Gentiles.



Implications:

- Overwhelming Awe
- Consuming Gratitude
- Irresistible Humility
- Compelling Commitment



Romans 10:1

[10:1] Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.

A silhouette of a person standing on a hill, raising their right hand in a gesture of praise or prayer. The background is a sunset sky with warm orange and yellow tones, and two trees are visible on either side of the person.

Romans 11:13-14

[13] Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry [14] in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them.



Implications:

- Overwhelming Awe
- Consuming Gratitude
- Irresistible Humility
- Compelling Commitment
- **Profound Trust**