**GOD'S HOPE FOR THE DISOBEDIENT**

Romans 11:1-36

Key Verses: 11:30, 31

*“Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God’s mercy to you.”*

1. Read verses 1-6. Did God reject his people Israel? What was Israel’s condition in the time of Elijah (1Ki 16:30-33; 19:1-5)? What lessons does Paul draw from Elijah (1Ki 19:14,18)? On what basis did God spare the remnant? How does God use his remnant, chosen by his grace?
2. Read verses 7-10. What happens when people reject God’s grace, insisting on their own way? What did David say about those who become arrogant and self-righteous after receiving abundant grace?
3. Read verses 11-16. How did God use Israel's failure? Is Israel’s fall beyond recovery? What is God’s hope for Israel (12b)? How did Paul view his ministry with hope for Israel (13-15)? What hope does Paul find in the firstfruits offered to God (Nu 15:18-20) and the root (16)?
4. Read verses 17-24. Who are the branches that have been broken off? Who are the wild olive shoots and what blessing did they receive? Why is this a warning to Gentile believers, including us (20-21)? How do the broken-off branches and the engrafted wild olive shoots reveal God's kindness and sternness (22)? What hope does Paul find in this lesson (23-24)?
5. Read verses 25-32. What is God's hope for his people? Who is the deliverer from Zion? What do verses 28-29 teach about God's faithfulness? What do verses 30-32 teach about his mercy, and about his ways of working?
6. Read verses 33-36. What does Paul learn about God’s sovereignty as he reflects on God's world salvation work?