

Has God Cancelled His Promises to Israel, Part 4

John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 11:11-15.

B. The promise of Genesis 16 and 17 is that from Ishmael would come the people who would persecute the covenant people.

C. Paul picks up on the trajectory of the promise in Galatians 4. There were people that wanted to wipe out the covenant people. Many of Ishmael's descendants wanted to eliminate Israel.

D. God has a special place for Israel--he promised that they would not be wiped out. (Jeremiah 31:37; Deuteronomy 14:2; 32:26)

E. God is presently chastening Israel. They have been set aside because of their sin and God's sovereignty partially, in passing and purposefully.

II. The setting aside of Israel is partial.

III. The setting aside of Israel is in passing (temporal).

A. It has a purpose.

1. God has not set them aside that they should be totally passed aside. (Romans 11:8)

2. Through the Israelites' fall, Gentiles have been brought into God's family. There is Gentile salvation. (Matthew 8:11-12; 21:43; 22; Acts 13:46; 18:6; 28:23)

3. Through the grafting in of the Gentiles, individual Jews would be drawn to Christ through jealousy.

4. The fall of Israel ends up for the blessing of the world.

5. Paul warns Gentiles not to boast because if the natural branches could be broken off so much more the grafted branches.

B. It has a premonition.

C. It has a promise.

Application Questions:

1. Why was the fall of Israel necessary?

2. Why is the salvation of ethnic Israel a sure future thing?

3. Why does Paul warn Gentile believers against boasting? Explain.
