

The Christian and the Jew

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 11:1-36.

B. The root of anti-Semitism is the Jewish belief that they are God's people.

II. Is Israel a total loss as far as God's promises are concerned?

A. The mass of the nation was blinded and hardened by their rejection of Christ, but a segment has been preserved by God's grace.

B. How God deals with Israel shows how He deals with believers.

1. All a person's works are set aside as utterly worthless with regard to pleasing God.

2. God's grace draws the line for the believer.

a. The Christian is different so the Bible never considers him evil in his identity. (Ephesians 5)

b. In spite of ourselves, God breaks through and makes us act like Christians sometimes.

c. Consequently, Christians can be called the salt of the earth—there is security in this.

III. Is there no longer a place for the Jews as God's chosen people?

A. The promises are still valid to national Israel.

B. The Jew's rejection.

1. It was necessary that they be hardened so that Gentiles could come into the promise.

2. God's intent was to restore the Jews through their jealousy of what the Gentiles received—the self-sufficiency had kept them from the blessings of God.

3. God was under no obligation to save the Gentiles.

C. All of Israel will be saved.

D. As God sets Israel aside, so too He sets aside the entire believer's self-effort.

1. When we freely admit that without Jesus we can do nothing, only then can we have His strength to do all things.

2. It is only Christ within the Christian that accomplishes anything, so pride must be continually watched.

3. One day even the believer's flesh will serve God.

Application questions:

1. In what ways does God's program for Israel parallel His program for the believer?

2. How can pride be so threatening to the life of faith? Explain.

3. In what ways has pride affected your faith? What did you learn from those experiences?
