**ROMANS 11b**

**Wild Olives & Broken Branches**

Intro: In his amazing commentary on this text, (blueletterbible.com) Chuck Smith takes a few minutes to explain that this event of Israel’s failure and the Gentile’s blessing was prophesied by the Prophet Daniel in his Ancient prophecy of “70 Weeks” which is recorded for us in Daniel 9:24-27. Let’s read them:

**The Seventy Weeks**

**Daniel 9:24** "Seventy ***(sets of)*** weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy. 25 "Know therefore and understand, *That* from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem ***(537 B.C.)*** Until Messiah the Prince, ***(JESUS!)*** *There shall be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.

26 "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; ***(IE, appearing to have accomplished nothing)*** And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it *shall be* with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

* Between V26 and V27 is where we are right now… The rapture of the Church will begin the 70th week.

27 Then he ***(Antichrist)*** shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."

***BACK TO ROMANS 11***

**ROMANS 11:19** You ***(Gentiles)*** will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in."

* NLT - "those branches were broken off to make room for me."

20 Well *said.* Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear.

* NLT – “don't think highly of yourself, but fear what could happen.”
* **We stand by faith**…
	+ NOT IN PRIDE! We understand that we are adopted children of God… We are OK with Israel being His Favorite kids you might say… We are just grateful for God’s grace

**WARNING!**

21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, **(Israel)** He may not spare you **(Gentiles)** either.

* SO… We live in times of wavering faith in God – Do you agree?
* There was a time not too long ago when even in public schools kids were led in prayer and encouraged to believe in God… “One nation… under God…”
* But now our kids are taught things that go against their Sunday School teaching… The Bible and God are not the ultimate authority as far as public education is involved. Unless your kids are blessed to have a Christian School Teacher like Martina Patrick, Rebekah Meza, Evelynn Perez, Marilyn Avila, Maria Murphy, or Denise Leedholm they are being led away from the Bible. **SO… The warning continues…**

**BAD NEWS / GOODNESS**

22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, **if** you **continue** in *His* goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

* Beloved… This is a stern warning **TO THE CHURCH**!
* John warned us too:
* **1John 2:15** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
* SO… CAN YOU continue in His goodness and be at home in this nasty world we dwell in?
	+ Can you give yourself to the world for 6.5 days and be a Christian for a few hours on Sunday?
	+ CAN you CLAIM to be born again but show no evidence of it? **NO** Ephesians 5:6 calls this claim “Empty words”

**Trick Question**: Do you have to be perfect to get into heaven?

**IF NO**: The gate is not “Narrow” Matthew 7:13

**IF YES**: How do we attain perfection?

**John 1:29** – “Behold the Lamb of God (Jesus)

Who takes away the sin of the world.”

**PICK A LANE**

23 And they also, if they ***(Israel)*** do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.

24 For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who *are* natural *branches,* be grafted into **their own olive tree**?

* Here is where the sermon title comes from: “Wild olives and broken branches” We wild olives are enjoying the tree trunk that was meant for Israel… AB+ND will be returned to Israel too.

**THE MYSTERY OF ISRAEL'S SALVATION**

25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this **mystery**, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until **the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. (The LORD knows which Gentile IS the last one)**

“Until the last one hears”

26 And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: "THE DELIVERER WILL COME OUT OF ZION, AND HE WILL TURN AWAY UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB; 27 FOR THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS." **ISAIAH 59:20-21**

* God keeps His promises and He has made many promises to Israel…

28 Concerning the gospel they ***(ISRAEL)*** are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.

* **NLT** - Many of the people of Israel are now enemies of the Good News, and this benefits you Gentiles. Yet they are still the people He loves because He chose their ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**IRREVOCABLE LOVE**

29 For the gifts and the calling of God ***(to Israel)*** are irrevocable.

**FOR EXAMPLE**

30 For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, 31 even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they **(Israel)** also may obtain mercy.

* When you travel to Greece and the surrounding nations you see thousands of gods that were once worshipped… But Jesus Christ is the most famous of all now…

32 For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.

33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

* **CROWDER** – If His love is an ocean, then we’re all sinking!

34 "FOR WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD? **ISAIAH 40:13**

OR WHO HAS BECOME HIS COUNSELOR?" **ISAIAH 9:6**

35 "OR WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM AND IT SHALL BE REPAID TO HIM?" **JOB 41:11**

* **God owes us nothing… But gives MORE than we could ever deserve!**
* **Good times… Terrible times… He gives us what He knows we need…**

36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

 **NLT - For everything comes from Him and exists by His power and is intended for His glory. All glory to Him forever! Amen.**

**COURSON** - And so we close this section, knowing that God has proven Himself to the Jews. He chose them sovereignly, deals with them equitably, and promises He will not give up on them eternally. Generations before ours studied this section of Romans and thought, *We hear what you say, Paul—but where is Israel today?*

We're so blessed because we don't have to say, "Someday, Israel is going to come together." No, we can say, "We've already seen it happen, Lord. Therefore, we know that things are going to come together for us as well. You've promised they would, and we trust in You."