

GOD'S UNFAILING PLAN FOR THE WORLD

Romans 10:18-11:36

Introduction:

- Many have attempted to fulfill evil plans that seem impossible
 1. Osama Bin Laden – to rid the Moslem world of all w_____ influence.
 2. Adolf Hitler – to rid Europe of all J_____
- Many have attempted to fulfill good plans that seem impossible
 1. Human plans have limited or little success
 - a. World p_____
 - b. Establishing religious l_____
 - c. Ridding the world of p_____
 2. God's plans never fail
 - a. He has a p_____ track record
 - 1) He delivered the Jews from Egyptian s_____
 - a) Recorded in Ex 12:33-36
 - b) Recorded by an Egyptian eyewitness – the Ipuwer papyrus records some of the plagues and states that slaves escaped with the w_____ of Egypt.
 - 2) He defeated sin in the death and resurrection of Jesus
 - a) Jesus' death is recorded by Christian, Jewish, and p_____ historians.
 - b) Jesus' resurrection is recorded by the Jewish historian, Josephus (Antiq. Book XVIII:3:3)
 - c) No historian attempts to challenge the resurrection story within _____ years of the event.
 - b. God's ultimate plan for the world of people is given in Romans 11
 - 1) The ultimate plan does not change
 - 2) The m_____ of achieving that plan can – how will you respond to God's plan?

Preserving a Remnant from Israel (1-6)

- God originally intended to use Israel to evangelize the w_____ (Ex 19:4,5)
 1. Because of their s_____, God bypassed them.
 2. But just because God bypassed them does not mean that God has r_____ them.
 - a. He has forek_____ the people of Israel (2)
 - 1) God has not foreknown e_____ person (Rom 8:29 states that those whom He foreknew He eventually saves)
 - 2) The Greek word means to know intimately or personally and so refers to a p_____ decision to have a personal relationship with someone.
 - 3) God decided that He would have a personal relationship with the people of Israel long ago and it will be fulfilled in the New C_____ (Jer 31:33,34)
 - b. He has preserved a r_____ of Jewish believers
 - 1) He saved P_____ (1)
 - 2) He had 7_____ believing Jews in the days of Elijah (4)

3) In Paul's day there was a believing remnant due to God's gracious
c _____ (5,6)

4) A remnant of believing Israel has always been present and always will be present.

- God did not change His ultimate plan but the m _____ of achieving that plan

Persuading All People Groups with the Gospel (7-11, 17-25)

- The first Christians were J _____

1) Numbered over _____ by the time of the resurrection appearances (I Cor 15:6)

2) Numbered over _____ just after the Holy Spirit came to the Jewish people (Acts 2:41)

3) Numbered over _____ men in the few years following (Acts 4:4)

4) Numbers kept increasing among the Jewish population until the stoning of Stephen (Acts 6:7)

- The first persecutors of Christians were the J _____ religious leaders (Rom 8:1)

1) Persecution s _____ the Jewish believers

2) The scattering resulted in the gospel going to the non-Jewish world and the Holy Spirit came to the:

a) The S _____ (Acts 8)

b) The G _____ (Acts 10)

- The means of reaching the ends of the earth with the gospel (Acts 1:8) is no longer believing Israel, but any believer who wants to be u _____ - olive tree illustration (17-24)

1. The olive tree represents the f _____ of God (17)

2. The natural branches represent Israel who p _____ to be a part of the family of God (21)

a. Believing Israel remains

b. But unbelieving Israel was b _____ off by God (many believed that just because they were a Jew, they were automatically a child of God)

3. The wild olive shoots that are grafted in represent the G _____ people that profess to be a part of the family of God (19)

a. Many people profess to be Christians but are not – they will be broken off.

b. Only those who truly have f _____ will remain

- A p _____ hardening has happened to Israel UNTIL the f _____ of the Gentiles comes in.

1. What is the fullness of the Gentiles? – it is when God is done s _____ people from the Gentile world (Rev 5:9,10).

2. How far do we have to go? (see Joshuaproject.net)

a. 9700 different people groups in the world

b. _____ of them are considered unreached

3. What you and I can do

a. P _____ (salvation)

b. G _____ (cooperative program, missions)

c. W _____ (as you have opportunity)

Producing a Faithful Israel (12-15, 25-32)

- After the fullness of the Gentiles comes in (after God has saved people from every tribe, tongue, nation and class)
 1. Then He will save a _____ of Israel (26)
 - a. This refers to physical Israel as verse 28 makes clear
 - b. God cannot go back on His w_____ (29)
 2. The Jewish people will be the last people group saved.
- What will happen when God saves physical Israel? (12,15)
 1. If by Israel's transgression (the rejection of the gospel), it brought r_____ (salvation) to the Gentiles, how much more will Israel's fulfillment (salvation) bring! (v. 12)
 2. If Israel's rejection of C_____ brought reconciliation (salvation) to the Gentile world, what will their acceptance of Christ bring?
 - a. The answer – life from the d_____
 - b. The salvation of Israel will usher in Christ's coming when He will physically resurrect believers from the dead
 - 1) Matt 24:14 – the end (context is Christ's coming) will come AFTER the gospel is preached to a _____ the nations (literally – ethnics).
 - 2) The physical resurrection of believers happens at the last t_____, when Jesus descends from heaven (I Thess 4:13-17; 5:23,24; I Cor 15:51-55)
 - 3) His descent will be visible to every e_____ (Rev 1:7)
 - 4) This is termed the f_____ resurrection in Rev 20:5,6
 - a) The first resurrection is the physical resurrection of all b_____ who will reign with Christ for 1000 years.
 - b) The second resurrection is the physical resurrection of unbelievers where they will experience the second death (Rev 20:11-15)

Conclusion

- God's ultimate plan for the world will not f_____
 1. He bypassed Israel as His instruments of salvation because they were stubborn. Will God bypass you or me?
 2. What you need to do to be useful to God - cleanse yourself from s_____ (2Tim 2:21)
- God would rather not bypass you or me – how will you stand before God this day? This week? This month? This year?
 - Passive
 - Resistant
 - Available