

Israel's Spiritual Slumber Today During the Parenthesis of the Seventy Weeks of Daniel

Scripture Reading:

Romans 10:1-4 - 11:6

REVIEW

Present-day phenomenon of world-wide antisemitism

Israel's historical formation and 3 dispersions from its promised land

Israel's fulfillment of the 70 prophetic weeks recorded in Daniel 9:24-27

REVIEW of 70 Weeks of Daniel

- The first 69 weeks have historically been fulfilled
 - 7 weeks = (7x7) 49 yrs from decree of Cyrus to rebuild Jerusalem
 - 62 weeks = (7x62) 434 yrs from the rebuilding of Jerusalem to the death of Christ
- The 70th week is yet future, when "...the coming prince" (the Beast of Rev 12 and 13, aka the "Man of Lawlessness" of II Thess 2) will make a covenant guarantying Israel's peaceful existence for "1 week" (7 yrs)
 - This prince will break His covenant after 3 ½ yrs and Israel will be scattered from the land for a fourth and last time.

REVIEW of 70 Weeks of Daniel

- At the conclusion of the 70th week (the 7-yr Tribulation)
 Messiah, Christ, will return and
 - Regather scattered Israel
 - Judge the unbelieving Jews
 - Fulfill all the covenants that God has made with Israel
 - Land and life
 - The Palestinian Covenant
 - The New Covenant of Jeremiah 31:31

INTRODUCTION: The Present Parenthesis

• What is happening to the Jewish people <u>now</u>, between the 69th and 70th week?

 The Apostle Paul addresses this question in Romans chapters 9-11



 Today, we look at the last half of those three chapters to summarize Paul's answer.

Israel's Perpetual Problem: Attempting to Earn Salvation by Self-Righteousness

• Romans 10:1-4

- Paul's desire and supplication for the salvation of Israel vs 1
- The ignorant zeal of Israel concerning God and their own selfrighteous efforts – vs 2-3
 - cf Ex 19:8, some exceptions such as David, Rom 4:6-8
- Israel's ignorance of God's righteousness vs 3b-4

Israel's Persistent Disobedience and Contradiction to God's Grace

- Romans 10:14-15, The reverse order of salvation by grace:
 - They who have believed (believers) are then able to communicate with God vs 13-14a
 - Before they can communicate, they must believe in Him vs 14b
 - Before they can believe in, they **must hear** vs 14c
 - Before they can hear, someone must preach vs 14d
 - Before the ones preach, they **must be sent** vs 15
 - Cf Isa 52:7 note! "as"

Israel's Persistent Disobedience and Contradiction to God's Grace

- Romans 10:16-21, Israel's (general) response to the gospel:
 - (The greater part) has not obeyed the gospel vs 16
 - "obeying" (listening, believing) comes by hearing the Word of God vs 17
 - All the world has heard God's creation testimony vs 18
 - cf Ps 19:1-4
 - Israel has two specific witnesses:
 - Moses Deut 32:21
 - Isaiah Isa 65:1-2

Is God Finished Working with His People, Israel?

- Romans 11:1-6
 - No! vs 1-2a

- There has <u>always</u> been a remnant vs 2b-4a
- Even today, God has a remnant of Israel, chosen by grace, (not out of works) – vs 5-6

CONCLUSION

 We believers today, who are mostly of Gentile origin, were never looking for this eternal salvation by grace.

 And yet, in God's sovereign grace and mercy He has been reaching out to the gentile nations to provide us the unspeakably marvelous salvation from sin unto Eternal Life for the last 2000 years, "taking out a people for His Name" while His work with Israel has been temporarily set aside.

