



The Transitional Record  
of Salvation's Offer to  
Israel, Now Provided to  
the Gentiles

*Scripture Reading:*

**Acts 28: 14-48**

# REVIEW and INTRODUCTION

Romans 11:16-17 uses the olive tree to picture the blessing of God's provision UNTO salvation.

- The **root** pictures Abraham, who was made holy by his salvation faith (Gen 15:1-6)
- The **natural branches** picture Abraham's physical offspring through his grandson Jacob (Israel)
  - These branches are holy because they have been separated unto God's provision of salvation by faith like Abraham's salvation-faith, but not necessarily made holy by personal faith

# INTRODUCTION

- Because of the persistent unbelief in God's offer of salvation, God has removed most of Israel from the place of His proclaimed offer unto salvation and temporarily replaced them with a new primary audience for His message of salvation: **the Gentiles!**
- Beginning with the earthly ministry of Jesus to the end of the book of Acts, **we see the transition of the offer of salvation from Israel to the Gentiles.**

# “TO THE JEW FIRST”

Romans 1:16

- **Jesus’ exclusive ministry to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel” - Matt 15:24, cf Matt 10:5-6**
  - Israel’s response – Jn 1:10-13
- **Paul’s ministry to the Jew first**
  - Paul’s desire for Israel’s salvation – Rom 9:1-4, 10:1
  - Paul’s preaching in the synagogues
    - His method of comparing OT predictions of the Messiah with NT fulfillment by Jesus - cf Acts 17:1-2. KJV “reason” and “dispute”

# “TO THE JEW FIRST” (continued)

- Paul’s preaching in the synagogues (continued)
  - **FIRST missionary journey:**
    - Antioch - Acts 13:14-47
    - Iconium - Acts 14:1

# “TO THE JEW FIRST” (continued)

- Paul’s preaching in the synagogues (continued)
  - **SECOND missionary journey:**
    - Philippi - Acts 16:13 (no synagogue, Jewish women met at river)
    - Thessalonica - Acts 17:1
    - Berea - Acts 17:10
    - Athens – Acts 17:17
    - Corinth – Acts 18:4-17
    - Ephesus – 18:19

# “TO THE JEW FIRST” (continued)

- Paul’s preaching in the synagogues (continued)
  - **THIRD missionary journey:**
    - Ephesus - Acts 13:14 - 47
  - **Jerusalem Temple**
    - Acts 21:16

# NOW, TO THE GENTILES

- **Jesus: “other sheep have I”**
  - **Jn 10:16**
- **Jesus: “you shall be witnesses unto me”**
  - **Acts 1:8**
- **Paul: “the salvation of God is sent to the Gentiles”**
  - **Acts 28:28**



# CONCLUSION

- At the conclusion of the transitional history of the Book of Acts, Gods provision offer of salvation is now sent to the Gentiles.
- With the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 AD:
  - The scattering of the Jews among the nations
  - The breaking off of most of the natural branches (Israel)
  - The grafting in of the wild branches (the Gentiles)
  - This temporary transition is now complete



# CONCLUSION

- For the last 2000 years, evangelism has been emphasized among the nations.
- Many Gentiles have been exposed to the gospel of salvation, and some (Acts 15:14) have responded by faith
  - Have you responded while in this day of Salvation (II Cor 6:2)?
  - If so, never stop rejoicing over salvation by God's grace!