

## Behold, Then The Goodness Of God

Romans 11:22

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## Goodness and Severity Context

Romans 11:11-24

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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

Verse 11, Did Israel stumble in order to fall? Was this their intended purpose? **"God forbid,"** but it led to their fall as a nation. (cf. Matthew 21:33-45)

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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

Verse 11  
**The Jews' rejection of the gospel, gave a benefit to the Gentiles.**

- ▶ Paul (the apostle to the Gentiles), affirmed that the Jews *"thrust it (the word of salvation, mg) from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles"* (Acts 13:46)
- ▶ Jews did it in ignorance. Acts 3:17; 1 Corinthians 2:8; cf. Romans 10:1ff
- ▶ Fulfilled the scriptures. Acts 13:28, 46

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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

Verse 11

- ▶ **Salvation came to the Gentiles to provoke the Jews to jealousy.** (verse 11b; cf. 10:19)
- Acts 13:45, filled with envy
- Acts 17:5, moved with envy
- Acts 17:13, stirred up the people
- ▶ This made possible the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham. *"In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed."* (Genesis 22:18; cf. Galatians 3:16; cf. Matthew 28:19; Luke 24:47)

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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

Verse 11

*"Their fall"* ➡ *The riches of the world ...*

*"Their loss"* ➡ *The riches of the Gentiles ...* (cf. Ephesians 3:1-8)

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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

- Verses 13-15, The blessings upon the Gentiles were to be an incentive to the Jews.**
- ▶ Paul as an apostle to the Gentiles, realized that *"some of them"* (Jews) would obey the gospel. (verse 14; 11:5)
  - ▶ As the Jews had rejected the blessings of God through Christ they were *"dead,"* yet receiving a Jew back into favor with God is as life from the dead.

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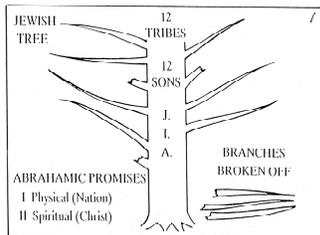
### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

- ▶ **Our text:**  
**Verses 16-24, The rejection of the Jews should be a warning against Gentile conceit.**
- ▶ When God accepted the first Jewish converts (Acts 2), God set the terms upon which any may be holy (verses 38-39).

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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

**Verses 17-18 – The olive tree speaks of the patriarchs as recipients of the promises. Because of their unbelief they were cut off from "among the people" and were cast out. cf. Matthew 8:11-12.**

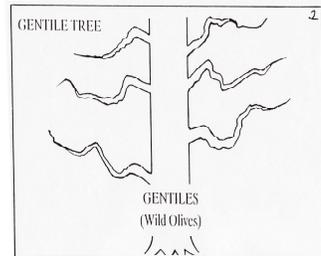


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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

Believing Gentiles were grafted in (cf. Ephesians 2:11-22) and were privileged to enjoy the blessings which had initially been offered to the Jews. (Romans 15:27; 11:21, 24)

Whatever else is true, *"salvation is from the Jews"* (John 4:22) and it is *"out of Zion"* that the word of salvation and the Messiah came. (Isaiah 2:2ff; Romans 11:26)



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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

- Verses 19-21 – What had happened to the Jew could also happen to the Gentile, thus the Gentile could not boast!**
- a. NOTE: The Jew also had the privilege of being grafted back in. cf. verse 24.

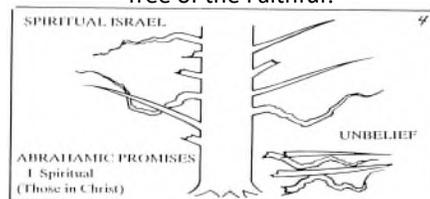
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### The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

**Verses 22-23 – The goodness and severity of God demonstrated in His dealings with the Jews and Gentiles.**

Genesis 12:3; 22:18; etc.

Tree of the Faithful!



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## The Stumbling Of The Jews. Benefit To The Gentiles. (11:11-24)

**Verse 24 – Summary: The Jews had the privilege of being the special objects of God’s favor.**

- ▶ Yet, they were broken off because of unbelief.
- ▶ The Gentiles who believed had been grafted into God’s favor.
- ▶ Yet they also must continue in God’s goodness, or they would be broken off!
- ▶ Romans 11:22, *“Behold then the goodness and severity of God: toward them that fell, severity; but toward thee, God’s goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.”*

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## Definitions

- ▶ **Behold** *eidon*: to see with the mind’s eye, signifies a clear and purely mental perception. [“to see, to perceive with the eyes, to perceive by any of the senses ... notice, discern, discover ... to turn the eyes, the mind, the attention to anything, to pay attention, observe, to see about something, to ascertain what must be done about it, to inspect, examine, to look at, behold”] (Thayer, 173).
- ▶ *eidon*: to see, calling attention to what may be seen or heard or mentally apprehended in any way” (Vine I:114).

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## Definitions

- ▶ **Goodness**: *chrestotes* “moral goodness, integrity” (Thayer); graciousness.

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## That Which Comes From God To Man Is Good, Because God Is Good.

- ▶ Psalms 25:8, *“Good and upright is Jehovah: therefore will he instruct sinners in the way.”*
- ▶ Psalms 33:4-5, *“For the word of Jehovah is right; and all his work is (done) in faithfulness. He loveth righteousness and justice: the earth is full of the lovingkindness of Jehovah.”*
- ▶ James 1:17, *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can be no variation, neither shadow that is cast by turning.”*

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## God’s Goodness Is Seen

**In The World and Its Provisions (Which Give and Sustain Life). Genesis 1:31; Psalms 145:15-16; Acts 14:17; 17:25.**

- ▶ Evidence of our dependence upon Him and His love for us! Matthew 5:45; 7:9-11
- ▶ We must trust in Him!

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## God’s Goodness Is Seen

**God’s Word Of Truth. Psalms 119:68, 39**

- ▶ His commandments. Romans 7:12 (cf. Deuteronomy 4:8; Nehemiah 9:13).
- ▶ Gospel of Christ (“good” news). Luke 4:18-19
- ▶ We need to taste the *“good word of God.”* Hebrews 6:5

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## God's Goodness Is Seen

### In Mercy and Forgiveness Of Our Sins. Psalms 86:5

- ▶ It is God's goodness (not man's) which prompts mercy and forgiveness. Psalms 25:6-7; Romans 5:8
- ▶ God forgives *"for His name's sake."* Psalms 109:21
- ▶ Why would anyone spurn such goodness?

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## God's Goodness Is Seen

### God's Goodness Gives Refuge and Blessings To People Of Faith. Nahum 1:7 (2 Timothy 2:19)

- ▶ Every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3
- ▶ God gives us *"eternal comfort and good hope through grace."* 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

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## What God's Goodness Must Cause Us To Do.

### Repent Of Our Sins. Romans 2:1-4

- ▶ Godly sorrow produces changed hearts and lives. 2 Corinthians 7:9-11
- ▶ We will perish unless we repent! Luke 13:3

### Continue To Be Faithful To God. Romans 11:22

- ▶ The one who *trusts* in Him is blessed. Psalms 34:8, *"Oh taste and see that Jehovah is good: blessed is the man that taketh refuge in him."*
- ▶ Whole-being, fervent service of the Lord. Romans 12:1-2, 11

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## What God's Goodness Must Cause Us To Do.

### Praise and Thank God For His Goodness.

- Psalms 106:1; 107:1; 145:7; Jeremiah 33:11**
- ▶ This is why worship is so important! Hebrews 10:24-25

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## What God's Goodness Must Cause Us To Do.

### Tell Others Of God's Goodness. Isaiah 63:7

- ▶ God is merciful to all who call upon Him. Romans 10:14-15 (Psalms 86:5 – part of His goodness)
- ▶ Do not sin by failing to tell others of God's goodness! James 4:17

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## Conclusion

- ▶ Romans 11:22 – Behold the goodness of God! His goodness is seen everywhere!
- ▶ *"The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord"* Psalms 33:5. KJV

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