In verses 25 to 29 Paul settles the question who he means by "Gentiles." He quotes three Old Testament prophecies to show that although Ten-tribed Israel went away into terrible sin and became known as "not God's people or Gentiles," they later would accept the Gospel and be called the children of the living God (or Christians).

In the 4 last verses of this chapter Paul compares Gentile Israel with Christ rejecting Jews. He shows how the election of grace out of the heathen Ten-tribes by simple faith "attained to righteousness even the righteousness which is of faith," but Israel (the Jews) which followed after the law of righteousness hath not attained to the law of righteousness, because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at the stumblingstone (The Christ)."

Verses 1 and 2 of Romans 11 refutes the teaching that God has no earthly chosen people in this age. Paul says, "I say then, Hath God cast away His people? God forbid. For I am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. . . ." The Apostle does not say, "For I also am a Christian." He says, "I also am an Israelite."

Verses 3 and 4 of Romans 11 identifies these Israelites as being the Northern Kingdom of Ten tribed Israel by quoting from I Kings 19:10 14, which relates an incident in Israel about 200 years before there were any Jews.

In verses 6 and 7 Paul declares that the only way to obtain to the election (that is, salvation) is by grace and not by works.

Verses 8 to 10 tell of the terrible judgment that fell on the Jews for rejecting the Christ. You will find that the Old Testament passages which Paul quotes in verses 8 to 10 were pronounced by the prophets and David upon those who would crucify the Christ. (See Psalm 69:20 28.)

From verses 11 to 14 Paul tells that through the Jews' rejection of the Gospel, the Gospel went to the Gentiles (Tribes), which in turn meant the riches of the world.

This turning of the Gospel from the Christ rejecting Jews to Gentile Israel is recorded in Acts 18:5, 6 where we read, "Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. And when they opposed themselves and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads. I am clean; from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles (or Tribes)." In chapter 11 and verse 13, Paul states that he is an apostle to the Gentiles (or Tribes) and rejoices in his ministry.

There would perhaps seem to some to be a discrepancy between the verse 1 and verse 15 of Romans 11. In verse 1, as we have seen, Paul argues very emphatically that God has not cast off His people, the Israelites, while in verse 15 we read, "For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?"

The Fenton Bible translation gives a clearer rendering in this particular than does the King James version. It gives verse 15 as follows: "For if their exclusion means that the world is reconciled to God, what will their admission mean? Why, it will be life from the dead!"

Israel's sin and exclusion from Palestine made it necessary for the Christ to die for the redemption of Israel, which is Isaiah's theme from chapter 40 through 66. In suffering and dying for the redemption of Israel, as Luke 1:67-79 states the Christ came to accomplish, the Christ also provided personal salvation for "whosoever will" or "the reconciling of the world."

In verses 17 to 24 Paul warns the Romans who were the wild olives (neither Israel or Judah). He tells them not to boast against the natural branches. He says, "Be not high minded but fear." Paul states in verse 23 that it is faith or lack of faith that determines whether or not a people would be grafted in or cast away.

Paul, in verses 25 to 29, declares that God has covenanted to restore and save all of Israel, that is both Judah and Israel, at the second coming of Jesus Christ. This does not mean that any Christ rejecting Anglo Saxon will be saved. Paul is simply stating that God has covenanted to bring Israel and Judah down upon their faces accepting the Christ, and praying to God for deliverance from the armies of Gog.

Then "there shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob, for this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. For the gifts of God are without repentance."

In the last 7 verses of Romans 11 the Apostle rejoices in the wisdom and knowledge of God. He shows how God can take a curse and make it a blessing, and that personal salvation is an individual affair.

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Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.

God's Answer From Romans

By C.O. Stadsklev

People throughout our nation are disturbed and alarmed over the manner in which our children and teen-agers are being subjected to degrading, filthy teachings on sex. "Filthy dreamers," as they are called in the Scripture, dream up every imaginable filthy, suggestive, evil thing to corrupt our youth.

What is disturbing and alarming to many people is that these unscriptural, devilish teachings are actually in our schools. Taxpayers' money is being used for this purpose. Sex, as every intelligent person knows and understands, must be kept within the scriptural bounds ordained by our Creator. The question is raised, then, why does God allow these "filthy dreamers" and corrupters to debauch and undermine the morals and physical, mental and spiritual well-being of our teen-agers?

We who believe the Bible to be the Word of God know that sooner or later God will literally consume these wicked people and destroy them from off the face of the earth. They will be suddenly and violently removed, and according to Scripture, God will use fire in this cleansing. It will surely come. But why does God Almighty not consume and destroy these debauchers now? Why are they allowed time for this corruption and undermining?

For an answer to these questions we turn to Romans 1 where the apostle Paul sets forth the reason for this corruption confronting us. Beginning with verse 21 we read: "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God . . ."

There was a time in our nation when God was glorified as God in education. Even secular institutions recognized God as the God of creation. And God's blessing was upon education. Young people who graduated from our institutions were sane, sensible, sacrificial young people who went forward to serve humanity. Not so today — we have not glorified God in education.

Let us consider another realm. There was a time in this nation when all legislation was generally brought into harmony with the national laws of the Bible. This was true for many, many years, but we have now departed from this pattern. It seems that the more unscriptural legislation is, the more readily it is accepted.

The same is true in the realm of business and labor. There was a time when business and labor organizations honored God, glorified and recognized Him as Creator even if they did not know Him as Savior.

There was a time when law enforcement was brought into harmony with the judgments of God. Laws of God calling for death and execution for certain crimes were honored. But we have defied and cast aside these laws of God.

What about the realm of recreation? There was a time in our nation when Sunday was honored as the Lord's Day. This is not true today. We as a people show disregard and disrespect for the Lord's Day. What is God's answer?

Verse 24 gives us the answer: "Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness . . ." When will we ever get this truth across to the good people of this nation, those who are upset and concerned about the filth and corruption, those who want to live and let live, but who have no regard for God, no reverence or respect for the Lord's Word or for the Lord's Day! What is God's answer? Does He give up in despair? No, not at all—God sends uncleanness.

Verse 25 relates something else that has been done: "Who changed the truth of God into a lie . . ." Is this not challenging and significant! We hear every day of the trouble in our schools and colleges. What is this unrest? It is God's answer to us for changing the truth of God into a lie.

You may ask how we have done this. For one thing we have changed the truth of God in regard to creation into a lie—throughout the nation the evolution theory is taught. We have also changed the truth of God in regard to salvation and the blood atonement, and in regard to the inspiration of the Scripture. We have changed the truth of God concerning the virgin birth and the deity of Christ. We have changed the truth of God when it comes to the national message and the Israel identity. Many today say there is no gospel of the kingdom or national message of the Bible.

Verse 26 continues to give us God's answer: "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections . . ." When we see this uncleanness, when we see vile affections and unnatural, unwholesome, unscriptural behavior and teaching in regard to sex and other issues and problems, let us remember Romans 1. Let us understand that the Almighty is answering us because we have changed the truth of God into a lie and have not honored or glorified God.

As we read verse 28 please note the development from bad to worse, all for the reason that the good people of this nation have not glorified God in the realms of education, legislation, business, labor and law enforcement. We have changed the truth of God not only in our secular institutions of learning but even in our churches and religious schools; there seems to be no end to the things being taught that change the truth of God into a lie.

Verse 28: "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind . . ." My friend, when will we get into