ELDER BROTHER SYNDROME

Romans 10:1-6

 God has not rejected His people, but continues to save a <u>REMNANT</u> by grace.

• God always saves on the basis of <u>GRACE</u>, which is antithetical to WORKS.

Romans 11:5-6

A rejection of <u>GRACE</u> leads to <u>HARDNESS</u> and judgment.



FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

- 1. Read Romans 11:1-2. What are some reasons it important for us (mostly Gentile Christians) to think through Israel's role now and in the future?
- 2. Read 1 Kings 19:1-18. Why is Elijah feeling so alone and dejected? How does God encourage and comfort Elijah? What is Paul's point about this in Romans 11:3-5?
- 3. How would you define grace (for help, see Romans 4:4-5, 11:6, Tit 3:5)? What are some ways that we pervert grace?
- 4. On a practical level, how can we continue to approach God by grace rather than creep into a works-based mentality?
- 5. Read Romans 11:7. How did Israel fail to obtain what it was seeking (for help, see Romans 9:30-10:4)? How can people today fail to obtain the right standing before God they are seeking?
- 6. Consider the context of the quotations Paul offers in 11:7-10. How does the context help explain or enhance Paul's point? (see Deut 29:4; Isaiah 6:9, 29:10; Ps 69:22-23)
- 7. How can we encourage and/or warn those around us who reject God's grace to not harden their hearts?

MEMORY VERSES: ROMANS 1:16-17

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now.... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, <u>The Last Battle</u>