Graft-itude

Romans 11:11-25

- Why would God have Israel stumble?
- Does that make Gentiles better than Jews?
- Is Israel beyond hope? Will any more Jews be saved?
 - 1. Israel's <u>STUMBLE</u> is for our (Gentiles') <u>BENEFIT</u>.

2. We (Gentiles) should be <u>HUMBLE</u> and <u>GRATEFUL</u>.

3. God will bring a fullness of <u>ISRAEL</u> to <u>SALVATION</u>.



FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

- Do you feel the Christian church does a good job of expressing our "graft-itude" to Jews? Why or why not?
- 2. How do we practically apply in our lives, what Romans 11:11-25 reveals about God's relationship with the Jewish people and their role in the salvation of all humanity?
- 3. How do we reconcile the idea of God intentionally causing lsrael to stumble with the Biblical understanding of God as loving and just? (See Deut. 32:4, 1 John 4:8, Genesis 50:20) How might we respond to those who struggle with the concept of God causing or allowing hardening and suffering, both in the context of Israel's stumbling and in our own lives?
- 4. How might the concept of "grafting" in Romans 11:14-24 help us to better understand our own relationship with God? (See John 15:1-16, 1 Corinthians 12:12-13)
- 5. In what ways does Romans 11:25 challenge or reinforce our assumptions about God's timing and the fulfillment of His promises, both in our own lives and in the world as a whole? (See also Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 2 Peter 3:9)

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>