

# Replacements with but a Minute to Win It!

Romans 11:1 I say then, **Hath God cast away his people?** God forbid. For I also am an **Israelite**, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 **God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.**

Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against **Israel**, saying, 3 Lord, they have **killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars;** and I am left alone, and they seek my life. 4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself **seven thousand** men, who have not bowed the knee to *the image of Baal*. 5 Even so then at this present time also **there is a remnant** according to the **election of grace**. 6 And **if by grace,** then *is it* no more of works: otherwise **grace** is no more **grace**. But if *it be* of works, then is it no more **grace:** otherwise work is no more work. 7 What then? **Israel** hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the **election** hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded 8

(According as it is written, God hath given them the **spirit of slumber**, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day. **9** And David saith, **Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them:** **10** Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back alway.

**11** I say then, Have they stumbled **that they should fall?**

God forbid: but *rather* **through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles**, for to provoke them to

jealousy. **12** Now if the fall of them *be* the **riches of the world**, and the diminishing of them the riches of the

Gentiles; **how much more their**

**fulness?** **13** For **I speak to you Gentiles**, inasmuch

as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: **14**

If by any means I may provoke to emulation *them which are* my flesh, and might save some of them. **15** 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? 16 For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches. 17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a **wild olive tree**, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; 18 **Boast not against the branches.** But if thou **boast**, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. 19 Thou wilt say then, **The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in.** 20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: 21 For if God spared not the natural branches, *take heed* lest he also spare not thee. 22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in *his* goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. 23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again. 24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural *branches*, be grafted into their own olive tree?

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to **Israel**, until the

**fulness of the Gentiles be come in.** 26 And so **all Israel shall be**

**saved:** as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For **this is my covenant** unto them, when I shall take away their sins. 28 As concerning the gospel, *they are* enemies for your sakes: but as touching the **election**, *they are* beloved for the fathers' sakes. 29 For the gifts and calling of God *are* without repentance. 30 For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: 31 Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. 32 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable *are* his judgments, and

his ways past finding out! 34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? 35 Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? 36 For of him, and through him, and to him, *are* all things: to whom *be* glory for ever. Amen.

- 1987 NFL the pro players went on strike
- 85% of the veterans would not cross the picket lines during the strike
- Replacement players filled the rosters.
- They were mocked like being called "Chicago Spare Bears", "San Francisco Phoney Niners," "New Orleans Saint Elsewheres," "Washington ScabSkins," and "Seattle Sea-scabs"
- The strike only lasted 24 days
- You probably don't realize but we have a great deal in common with the Spare Bears, the Phoney Niners, and the SeaScabs.
- Israel is the real team. They were chosen to be used of God to get the message to the world. To be a blessing to the world

- They failed. They quit. They got hung up on how their uniforms looked. How they were pros and better than anyone else. They looked inward, saw themselves as superior and failed to carry out God's plan
- God blinded their eyes and closed their ears. He did this corporately not individually
- As Israel stopped God took those willing to cross the picket line and started the church.
- He gave us the chance to carry the gospel
- We will provoke Israel to jealousy and they will be back
- This is how Paul explains that great truth to the church

1. Israel to the sidelines for a while **Romans 11:1** I say then, **Hath God cast away his people?** God forbid. For I also am an **Israelite**, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. **2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.** Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against **Israel**, saying,

a. God is not getting rid of His people. When you are His people then you are forever

b. Even when Elijah thought that God had no people left He did **3** Lord, they have **killed thy prophets, and dugged down thine altars;** and I am left alone, and they seek my life. **4** But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself **seven thousand** men, who have not bowed the knee to *the* **image of**

**Baal.**

c. God chose Israel by grace not because of anything in them **5** Even so then at this present time also **there is a remnant** according to the **election of grace.** **6**

And **if by grace,** then *is it* no more of works:

otherwise **grace** is no more **grace.** But if *it be* of works, then is it no more **grace:** otherwise work is no more work. **7** What then? **Israel** hath not obtained that

which he seeketh for; but the **election** hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded

d. When Israel failed to carry out God's plan of world evangelism He sets them to the side for a while **8** (According as it is written, God hath given them the **spirit of slumber**, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day. **9** And David saith, **Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them:** **10** Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back away.

2. The church is on the field. God did not set them aside to get rid of them but to give the Gentiles a chance **11** I say then, Have they stumbled **that they should fall?** God forbid: but *rather* **through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles,** for to provoke them to jealousy.

- a. The responsibility for the message passed from Israel to the church
- b. The fall of Israel was to bring the gospel to the entire world and make them rich



- c. This was just a step along the way to God fulfilling His plan of getting the gospel to the world **12** Now if the fall of them *be* the **riches of the world**, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; **how much more their fulness?**
- d. Paul was excited about God bringing the Gentiles and the church to the front to carry the gospel **13** For **I speak to you Gentiles**, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: **14** If by any means I may provoke to emulation *them which are* my flesh, and might save some of them.
- e. The Gentiles were getting the ministry of reconciling the world **15** 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?
- f. We were grafted in **17** And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being **a wild olive tree**, wert **grafted in among them**, and

with them partake of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

3. Israel will be back on the field. **25** For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to **Israel, until** the **fulness of the Gentiles be come in.** **26** And so **all Israel shall be saved:** as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:
- a. We should never take lightly that we are allowed this opportunity **18 Boast not against the branches.** But if thou **boast**, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. **19** Thou wilt say then, **The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in.** **20** Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: **21** For if God spared not the natural branches, *take heed* lest he also spare not thee.
  - b. We were the scrubs, the nobodies. We didn't deserve a chance to be ministers of reconciliation **17** **And if some of**

the branches be broken off, and thou, being **a wild olive tree**, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

- c. God is allowing us a moment of glory, a chance, an opportunity to make a major difference
- d. He will be bringing Israel back to their place of service
- e. This is our moment. How will we use it?

#### 4. Personal application

- a. God is in the soul saving, world reconciling business
- b. He has allowed us our brief moment in history
- c. How will we handle this moment
- d. Will we develop an arrogant spirit that makes us feel superior to Israel or will we humbly accept that we have been given an opportunity to play a part in His great work
- e. Like Esther, maybe we have come to the kingdom for a time just like this
- f. How much does world evangelism matter to you
- g. How much of your income goes to getting the gospel around the world

- h. Do you realize that you are here for a greater purpose than to just take up space, breathe air, have children, get some stuff and die
- i. Share the gospel, give some tracts, pray. Get to the mission field

- We are only on the field for a brief time. All of Heaven is watching
- Will we use our time, talents, and treasures to carry out the great commission, the ministry of reconciliation
- **II Corinthians 5:18** And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;** **19** To wit, that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world** unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and **hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.** **20** Now then we are **ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we **pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.** **21**

For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

- Vision Baptist Church will determine how we handle the pressure
- Can we play to win? Can we take our moment of glory seriously
- Can you individually realize that you were meant for glory.
- He has a great plan for you
- Will you get involved in what is eternally important? What is important to Him?
- You have been called up! What are you doing with it?