

Jesus Is Lord

Romans 9 – 11

by Don Falkos

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The people of Israel were adopted by God, saw God's glory, received the gift of the Law, learned how to worship God, and received God's promises. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are their ancestors. Christ was himself an Israelite by physical descent. And he is God, the one who rules over everything and is worthy of eternal praise. Yet many of my fellow Israelites have rejected Jesus, their own Messiah. I agonize over them. I would willingly be forever cursed if that would save them.

Refusing to accept God's offer of reconciliation, they keep trying to please God by obeying the Law. They fail to understand Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the Law was given. All who believe in him are made right with God.

If you openly declare Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart God raised him from the dead, you will be saved, whether you are a Jew or a Gentile. The same Lord is Lord of all and gives generously to all who call on him. But how can they call on him to be saved unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they've never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent?

Because so many Israelites turned away from the good news, God sent me to the Gentiles, and they have believed. But God's call to the Israelites can never be withdrawn. And when the full number of Gentiles has come to Christ, by God's mercy, all true Israelites will also be saved.