

The FALL and RISE of ISRAEL

Although we will use the apostle Paul's writings to the saints at Rome as the base ... we will also see what knowledge other prophets had on the subject.

We will begin in Luke's gospel with **Simeon**, a godly man who longed to see the Promised One who would be Israel's Comforter:

Luke 2:25-35 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem,
whose name was **Simeon**;
• and the same man was just and devout,
• **waiting for the consolation (or comforting) of Israel:**
and the Holy Ghost was upon him.
26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost,
that he should not see death,
before he had seen **the Lord's Christ**.
27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple:
and when the parents brought in the child Jesus,
to do for him after the custom of the law,
28 Then took he him up in his arms,
and blessed God, and said,
29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word:
30 For **mine eyes have seen thy salvation,**
31 Which thou hast prepared **before the face of all people;**
32 • **A light to lighten the Gentiles,**
• **and the glory of thy people Israel.**
33 And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things
which were spoken of him.
34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother,
Behold, **this child is set for the fall and rising again
of many in Israel;**
and for a sign which shall be spoken against;
35 (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,)
that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

Simeon knew the prophecy that God would **console** Israel in their city:

Isa 66:13 As one whom his mother comforteth,
so will **I comfort you;**
and **ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.**

Simeon also realized that God would show His salvation all over the world:

Isa 52:10 The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and **all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

Simeon understood the Lord's focus on Israel that God designed to flow through them and spread to all nations:

Isa 42:6-7 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness,
and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee,
• **and give thee for a covenant of the people,**
• **for a light of the Gentiles;**
7 • To open the blind eyes,
 • to bring out the prisoners from the prison,
and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

Simeon recognized Israel would go blind and fall as the prophets predicted:

Isa 8:13-15 Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

14 And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for **a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence** to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

15 And **many among them shall stumble, and fall,** and be broken, and be snared, and be taken.

Ezek 12:2 Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, **which have eyes to see, and see not;** they have ears to hear, and hear not: **for they are a rebellious house.**

Jer 5:23,25 But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone.

25 Your **iniquities** have turned away these things,
and your **sins** have withholden good things from you.

Simeon knew Israel would rise and shine forth God's glory:

Dan 12:3 And they that be wise shall **shine as the brightness of the firmament;** and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Isa 46:13 I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off,
and my salvation shall not tarry:
and **I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.**

Now let's go to Romans to read Paul's detailed description of Israel's fall and rising again. Hold your place there, as we reference other verses.

Paul was grieved over Israel's ruined condition after all the special privileges God had given them. He couldn't get over it. What a tragedy:

Rom 9:1-5 I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,

2 That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart.

3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

4 Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth

- the adoption,
- and the glory,
- and the covenants,
- and the giving of the law,
- and the service of God,
- and the promises;

5 Whose are the fathers,
and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all,
God blessed for ever. Amen.

Israel had God's benefits ... but they were trying to function by works.

Gentiles, who were without God in time past (Eph 2:12),

are now accepted by God because of their faith:

Rom 9:30-33 What shall we say then? That the **Gentiles**, which followed not after righteousness, **have attained** to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith.

31 But **Israel**, which followed after the law of righteousness, **hath not attained** to the law of righteousness.

32 Wherefore? **Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law.** For they stumbled at that stumblingstone;

33 **As it is written**, Behold, I lay in Sion (**Zion**) a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

God told Israel (in whom is no faith - Deut 32:21) through Moses that He would incite them to action by those that had no prior knowledge of Him:

Rom 10:19-21 But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will **provoke you to jealousy** by them that are **no people**, (It sounds like folks who were **aliens** and **strangers**, huh? Like Eph 2:12.) and by **a foolish nation** I will anger you. (Psa 74:18 says The foolish people have blasphemed the LORD's name.)

20 But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them **that sought me not**; I was made manifest unto them that **asked not after me**.

Mid-Acts-ers' teach that God was talking about the believers in Israel, the little flock, the remnant when He spoke of making Israel jealous by

'no people'
 'a foolish nation'
 'them that sought Him not'
 'them that asked not after Him.'

But that could not be right because we just read Rom 9:30-32 that said the Gentiles did **not** follow after righteousness, but Israel **did** seek it. Their problem was that they sought it by works and not by faith.

Even the next statement in the next verse, using the conjunction "But" indicates a change from who He **was** talking about back to Israel:

21 But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

Here are 2 verses that demonstrate who was called by God's name:

2 Chron 7:14 If **my people, which are called by my name**, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (This was Israel.)

Isa 65:1 I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto **a nation that was not called by my name**. (This was the Gentiles.)

The next verse also proves that Israel **did** seek the Lord

(even though they sought Him the wrong way):

Rom 11:7-8 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. (Deut 29:4, Ezek 12:2)

FYI, in this next verse, the Greek has 2 different words that were both translated "fall." It is a good word study for you to research.

This is yet another verse that clearly identifies the people in Romans 10:19-20 to be the Gentiles (**not** the believing remnant of Israel).

The Gentiles are who God used to provoke Israel to jealousy:

Rom 11:11 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.

The **fall**
and the **diminishing**
and the **casting away** of Israel are contrasted with their **fulness**
and their **receiving**
which is their future **rising**:

Rom 11:12, 15 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**?

Rom 11:15 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?

When Israel does rise, even more Gentiles will come into the faith then:

Isa 60:1-3 **Arise, shine; for thy light is come,**
and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but **the LORD shall arise upon thee,**
and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

3 And the Gentiles shall come to **thy light,**
and kings to the brightness of **thy rising.**

Jesus' disciples marvelled that He talked with a Samaritan woman (John 4:27) yet now, Paul has an official commission from Christ to speak to the Gentiles, so that, again, Israel would be provoked to jealousy:

Rom 11:13-14 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.**

We will identify the terms in this next passage

- the firstfruit
- the lump
- the root
- the branches

.... as Paul introduces the issue of merging the Gentiles into the Jews:

Rom 11:16 For if **the firstfruit** be holy, the **lump** is also holy:
and if the **root** be holy, so are the **branches**.

The FIRSTFRUIT

Jesus Christ, in His resurrection, is called the **firstfruits** of all dead believers which I believe links the **firstfruit** to **resurrection**:

(FYI, "the firstfruit" (singular) and "the firstfruits" (plural) are the same Greek word <aparche>.)

1 Cor 15:20, 23 But now is **Christ** risen from the dead,
and **become the firstfruits** of them that slept.

1 Cor 15:23 But every man in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits**;
afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

The LUMP

Initially, the **lump** was a **lump of CLAY** as **ISRAEL** was (Isa 64:8,
Jer 18:6) but now the **lump EXTENDS to INCLUDE the Gentiles**:

Rom 9:21-24 Hath not the potter power over the **clay**, of the same **lump** to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

(Rom 9:) 22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

24 **Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?**

1 Cor 5:6-7 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth **the whole lump?**

7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that **ye may be a new lump**, as ye are unleavened. For even **Christ our passover** is sacrificed for us:

The ROOT

Jesus Christ is called the **root** of David in Rev 5:5 and Rev 22:16.

Isaiah prophesied of Christ as a **root** in Isa 11:10 and Isa 53:2.

Jesus Christ is called the **root** of Jesse, who was King David's father:

Rom 15:12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be **a root** of Jesse, and he that shall **rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.**

The BRANCHES

Initially, the **branches** were **ISRAEL**:

John 15:5 I am the vine, **ye are the branches**: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

But now **the GENTILES** were **MERGED** in **AMONG** believing **Israel**:

Rom 11:17-19 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 (originally, Israel)** were broken off, that **I (a wild olive tree the Gentiles)** might be grafted in.

When Jesus appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus, and commissioned him, He specifically told Saul that the Gentiles would receive inheritance

AMONG THEM that were, obviously **ALREADY** sanctified, by faith in Him:

Acts 26:17-18 Delivering thee from the people, and from **the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,**

18 To open **their** eyes, and to turn **them** from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that **they may receive** forgiveness of sins, and **inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.**

Gentiles were made **PARTAKERS** of Israel's inheritance (Col 1:12,

Rom 15:27, Gal 3:9, 29). That is what **the MYSTERY of Christ** was:

Eph 3:4-9 Whereby, when ye read,

ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets **(not just Paul) by the Spirit; (not by Paul)**

Don't miss this! Here is the content of the 'hidden' mystery of Christ:

6 That the Gentiles should be **fellowheirs,** (We inherit what they inherit.)

and **of the same body,** (We are grafted into the same tree as Israel God did not start another brand new tree where there's no difference He grafted us into theirs. He made both Jew and Gentile **one** and broke down the middle wall of partition between us - Eph 2:14)

and **partakers of his promise** in Christ by the gospel: (1 Cor 10:17)

7 Whereof I **(Paul - the apostle of the Gentiles - Rom 11:13)** was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

We are fellow-heirs called to fellow-ship for all - whether Jew or Gentile:

9 And **to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery,** which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

When the apostle Paul said farewell to the Ephesian elders

he assured 'them Gentiles' of an inheritance **AMONG 'ALL' THEM** that were sanctified which would, of course, be **all believers** who were '**in Christ**' (Rom 16:7) **even BEFORE PAUL:**

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and **to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.**

Paul explained more details about the Jews and the Gentiles being in the same tree broken off, cut off, grafted in, etc. (Also see Isa 5:1-7):

Rom 11:20-23 Well; **because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith.** (2 Cor 1:24, 1 Cor 16:13)

Be not highminded, but fear:

21 For if God spared not **the natural branches,** (Israel) take heed lest he also spare not thee. (Gentiles grafted in among them)

22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; (unbelievers in Israel that were cut off) but toward thee, goodness, (believing Gentiles that were grafted in) **if thou continue** (John 8:31, 15:9; Acts 13:43, 14:22; Col 1:23; 1 Tim 4:16; 2 Tim 3:14; 1 John 2:24-25 Heb 8:9-10; 1 John 2:19; 1 Tim 4:1, Luke 8:13) in his goodness:

otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

23 And they also (the natural branches, Israel), if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: (any Israelites can believe and get back in the tree.) for God is able to graft them in again.

Paul made it plainly clear that 'wild' Gentiles were grafted into a 'good' olive tree, which was naturally Israel God's family in God's house:

Rom 11:24 **For if thou (Gentiles) 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 (Israel), be grafted into their own olive tree?**

Psa 52:8 But **I am like a green olive tree in the house of God:**
I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

Paul wanted the saints to know and understand what transpired how that while Israel is blind for awhile Gentiles are being grafted in:

Rom 11:25 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.**

When will the **fulness** of the Gentiles **be come in**?

When will the **times** of the Gentiles **be fulfilled**?

At the end of Daniel's 70th week:

Luke 21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and **Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.**

Rev 11:2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: **and the holy city (Jerusalem) shall they (the Gentiles) tread under foot forty and two months. (the last half of Daniel's 70th week)**

At the last trump (1 Cor 15:51-52, Rev 10:7, 11:15)

at the end of Daniel's 70th week,

God will return to resurrect the saints, judge the unbelievers, save Israel and Jerusalem, and set up His kingdom on earth:

Rom 11:26-27 And so all Israel (**Rom 9:6, Gal 6:16**) 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.

At the end of the world (Matt 24:3), Christ will come and save Israel:

Isa 45:17 But Israel shall be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded **world without end.**

When will God come and save Israel and take away their sins?

At the end of Daniel's 70th week:

Dan 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city,

- to finish the transgression,
- and **to make an end of sins,**
- and to make reconciliation for iniquity,
 - and **to bring in everlasting righteousness,**
 - and to seal up the vision and prophecy,
 - and to anoint the most Holy.

When will Jesus Christ take away their sins?

When He returns from heaven:

Acts 3:19-21 Repent ye therefore, and be converted,
that your sins may be blotted out,
when the times of refreshing shall come
from the presence of the Lord;
20 And **he shall send Jesus Christ,** which before was preached unto you:
21 Whom the heaven must receive
until the times of restitution of all things,
which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets
since the world began.

When Israel rises, in the day of Christ, lots of nations will be united to God:

Zech 2:11 And **many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people:** and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

Gentiles JOIN with Israel to be God's people

during their FALL and when they RISE:

Rom 9:26 And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God. (Hos 2:23, 1 Pet 2:10, 2 Cor 6:16, Rev 21:3)

This is David Dowell, saying, "Think about it!"
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