God's Mystery and Mercy

Brent Moody · Romans 11:1–36

INTRODUCTION

- Is God faithful to Israel? If this is what he's doing, if this is his plan of salvation, it seems like he's abandoned Israel.
- God remains faithful even though Israel is faithless.
- We're going to talk about God's mystery and his mercy.

1 Elijah and a Remnant Chosen by Grace

Romans 11:1–6

- God has not rejected his people, whom he foreknew.
- There's a complete group of people here who still have not bowed the knee to Baal.
- I've kept a remnant, and it is done by grace, not because they're so great and they've done so much, but because God is so merciful and he is so gracious.
- If God is not faithful to his promises, how can you trust this new plan in Jesus Christ?

2 The Mystery of God's Sovereignty

Romans 11:11–15; Romans 11:25–26

- There's this partial hardening that has come upon Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way, all Israel will be saved.
- He establishes the reality that Israel is not by flesh, that Israel is by promise.
- God is using these two groups for the best possible outcome because God is sovereign.
- The Jews have rejected the plan. And because they've done so, this actually brings salvation to the Gentiles.

3 The Cultivated and Wild Olive Tree

Romans 11:16–24; Romans 11:26–27

- There's a cultivated olive tree, and there's a wild olive tree.
- Very hard to destroy an olive tree, and they live a really long time.
- God is able to graft what would normally not be able to be grafted.
- They are grafted into the healthy olive tree, which is Israel, and Israel's Messiah, which comes through Israel.

4 God Always Keeps His Promises

Romans 11:23; Romans 11:33–36

- God always keeps his promises. Always. There's never a time when God does not keep his promises.

- God made a promise to Abraham, and he keeps his promise to Abraham. He doesn't just change his mind. God's not fickle.
- God can work through the most difficult circumstances and according to his sovereign will bring about the desired result.
- God has the power to graft. I don't have the power to graft. You don't have the power to graft.

5 Arrogance Is Completely Out of Place

Romans 11:18; Romans 11:30–32; Ephesians 2

- Arrogance really is completely out of place for God's people.
- Do not be arrogant toward the branches.
- Faith is the determining factor, it's the hinge of my relationship with God.
- Don't think you're so much better than someone who's struggling in faith right now, or someone who doesn't believe. We've all been there.

6 There Is Hope for the Broken Branches

Romans 11:18–25

- Here's the reality there is hope for the broken branches.
- Paul says, God has the power to graft them back in again. Don't give up on them.
- As long as they have breath and as long as they have life, they have an opportunity to return.

THE CHALLENGE

Maybe you've come out of the world and you see the worthlessness, the vanity, but nothing good is being produced. If that's the case, you have hope this morning. You can be grafted into God's people.

MY NOTES