

**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
IHOP BIBLE STUDY**

**# 18 – Romans 11: 1 – 10, “The Remnant of Israel -- with commentary**

**The purpose of the Letter to the Romans is to develop a “Model for Living the Awakened/Transformed Life.” Today’s study is the 18th of 27 lessons.**

**According to our Study Chart** we are studying the 3rd section of “Embrace The Work of Christ and the Spirit” This is one of seven sessions under the rubric of “Spirit Help.” This is the sixth session in this series. Remember, the focus of the Book of Romans is to provide us “The Model For Living The Awakened/Transformed Life.”

**BACKGROUND:** Honoring our Romans Chart is important. In this section we have seven lessons, five of which we’ve completed. At this point, it is helpful to keep before us that each of these seven lessons teach us what Paul has to say about *how this information helps us awaken to our human purpose of standing in the presence of God as Perfect At-One-Ment?* According to the chart, this is what is known as “Embracing the work of Christ and The Spirit.”

In this series of seven lessons we will discover how The Spirit helps us. In lesson # 13, the Spirit helps us to **embrace our weakness** so that it is no longer our enemy, but a friend; in lesson # 14, the Spirit **helps us to fulfill God’s desires** rather than our own desires; in lesson # 15, the focus is on how The Spirit helps us **act on God’s desires and not our own.** In lesson # 16, the Spirit helps us embrace Perfect At-One-Ment through the pursuit of **fulfilling our intended purpose.** In lesson, # 17 the Spirit **helps to end The Law and to establish righteousness.**

In today’s lesson, # 18 the Spirit extends grace as **a wake up call to a remnant** who are surrendered to do God’s will.

**Read the assignment in one reading.**

**Define:**

**1) The remnant --** From Paul’s perspective, he considered the early church to be the remnant. From the perspective of Gut Trip Analysis, the remnant is the Awakened people, and we are the inheritors of this tradition.

**2) Grace --** Grace always is an awakening event. Our purpose as human people is to fulfill our intended purpose of living awakened lives as human people. When we go back into spiritual slumber, the event that re-awakens is the grace of God. This also is understood to be a Christ event.

**3) What is the experience of being chosen by grace? --** All human beings are chosen to live the awakened life.

**4) Who are the elect? --** The elect are those of us who live the awakened life. All human beings are chosen to live the life of the elect.

A. **Vs. 1 - 3:** If God didn’t tear down Israel, what happened?

**WS:** The people, or nation, of Israel continually fell back into spiritual slumber.

B. **Vss. 1 – 2B:** Use your commentary to learn about Elijah. What is Paul referring to here?

**WS:** The Elijah reference is located in 1 Kings 19: 14. Also, information about Elijah is found at the end of this lesson. Elijah lived at the collapse of his time. Like Job he remains absolutely faithful to God whom he cannot deny. This makes God happy which finally makes Elijah happy too, even in the midst of great suffering. Tradition has it that Elijah never died, but is taken by chariot into a permanent relationship with God (a heavenly experience). It is believed that Elijah's presence foretells the coming of the Messiah, and he is one of those Jesus encounters on the Mount of the Transfiguration.

C. **Vs. 5:** Who is the Remnant to which Paul refers to here?

**WS:** Paul refers to the Early Church as those who live the awakened life. We are the inheritors of this relationship and experience.

What is the experience of being chosen by grace?

**WS:** All human beings are chosen to live the awakened life.

D. **Vs. 6:** What is the relationship between grace and works?

**WS:** That there are but two possible sources of salvation -- men's works, and God's grace; and that these are so essentially distinct and opposite, that salvation cannot be of any combination or mixture of both, but must be wholly either of the one or of the other." [Hanesib-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary]

E. **Vs. 7:** What was it that "Israel sought so earnestly, it did not obtain?"

**WS:** **Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for** -- better, "What Israel is in search of (that is, Justification, or acceptance with God -- see on [Ro 9:31](#)); this he found not; but the election (the elect remnant of Israel) found it, and the rest were hardened," or judicially given over to the "hardness of their own hearts." Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary]

Who are the "elect?" How did the elect get elected? To what are they elected?

**WS:** *The elect are those of us who live the awakened life.* All human beings are chosen to live the life of the elect.

*How did the elect get elected?* Easy – we were born elected!

*To what are we elected?* -- We are elected to live the humane life that is pleasing to God.

F. **Vs. 8:** How does God give people a "spirit of stupor?" (Is. 29: 9 – 12) You may have to do some research in your commentary.

**WS:** vss. 11, 12 -- <sup>11</sup> For you this whole vision is nothing but words sealed in a scroll. And if you give the scroll to someone who can read, and say to him, "Read this, please," he will answer, "I can't; it is sealed." <sup>12</sup> Or if you give the scroll to someone who cannot read, and say, "Read this, please," he will answer, "I don't know how to read." (Thompson's WordSearch).

This is the spirit of stupor recorded in Isaiah. Awakening is always there for people, but they must be awakened to it, or it is like being asked to read something and it is either sealed and can't be opened or they do not know how to read.

G. **Vs. 9:** Reference to David -- What is the "table" that becomes a trap and a stumbling block, darkened eyes and bent backs? (Psalm 69: 22, 23).

**WS:** Paul quotes Psalm 69 referencing the table that becomes a trap or a stumbling block. This is a metaphor or a simile referring to the "belief system" of the Jews. The Law became a trap and a stumbling block that blinded them to the Good News of Jesus Christ and left them as laborers in the rock quarry.

One of the IHOPers reported that the "table" was The Law, the Prophets, and the Promises. He mentioned this information came from *the New American Bible Encyclopedia of the Bible*.

**Alright folks, talk to me!**

## Elijah (prophet)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit.

**Elijah.** His name has been variously translated as "whose God is [the Lord](#)", "God the Lord", "the strong Lord", "God of the Lord", "my God is the Lord", "the Lord is my God", and "my God is Jehovah".

Elijah is first introduced in [1 Kings](#) 17:1 as delivering a message from God to [Ahab](#), king of [Israel](#). He is sometimes known as "[The Tishbite](#)", being from the town of [Tishbe](#).

Having delivered his message to Ahab, he retired at the command of God to a hiding-place by the brook [Cherith](#), beyond [Jordan](#), where he was fed by [ravens](#). When the brook dried up God sent him to the widow of [Zarephath](#), a city of [Zidon](#), from whose scanty store he was supported for the space of two years. During this period the widow's son died, and was restored to life by Elijah (1 Kings 17:2-24).

It is believed that the prophet Elijah shall return before the [Apocalypse](#) to foretell the coming of the [Messiah](#).