

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

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### PART 20: IGNORANCE VS. STUPIDITY

#### **HEARING BUT NOT RESPONDING**

More than 2,000 years ago the leadership of Israel and the majority of the people saw and heard Jesus and made the choice to reject Him. **Romans 10:18-21**

The high priest and his underlings made it clear to Pilate that Jesus was not their Messiah and they wanted him dead. **Luke 23:13-24**

These ungodly men were truly the synagogue of Satan. **Revelation 2:9; 3:9**

The prophet Isaiah was given message some 700 years before Christ that the people of Israel would reject the long awaited Messiah. **Isaiah 65:1-7**

#### **CAST AWAY?**

Paul was heartbroken over the sins of the Israelites and rhetorically asked whether God had cast away His people? **Romans 11:1**

No, God has not cast away the people He foreknew. Before the creation, God designed the angels and humanity. He looked into the future and saw each decision you and I would make. Paul proved this point by recalling that when Israel fell into sin, God had seven thousand men who had not bowed their knees to Baal. **verses 2-4; 1 Kings 19:14-18**

#### **ONLY A REMNANT WILL BE SAVED**

God is going to save a remnant of Israel. **Romans 11:5**

This decision is based upon grace; not by good works. **verse 6**

The odds of being born again and ending up in heaven are slim as shown by the following examples:

1. The time when Adam and Eve sinned until the flood was a period of 1,676 years. When God caused a worldwide flood, millions of people died in their sins and only 8 people survived. **Genesis 7:17-24**
2. While some 3 million people left Egypt under the leadership of Moses, but only two of the adults and those under the age of 20 entered the Promised Land. **Numbers 14:26-35; Hebrews 3:10-19**
3. From the time of Jesus' resurrection until today, only a small remnant of the world's population has been saved. **Matthew 7:13-14**
4. At the end of the 1,000 year kingdom, Satan will be loosed from the bottomless pit and most people born during this time period will believe his lies and die in their sins. **Revelation 20:7-9**



## **ELECTION – PREDESTINATION**

Mankind has been provided with a free will; each person must make a choice during their lifetime as to whom they will follow. **Joshua 24:14-15**

God saw before the creation each decision you and I will make and thus He knew in advance who the elect would be. Those who decided to reject God were blinded to make sure that they would not see the truth. **Romans 11:7**

Some 700 years before Christ, God told Isaiah that a blinding of the Israelites would take place because of sin. **Isaiah 6:8-11**

Jesus spoke to the people of Israel in parables and repeated the same message given to Isaiah. **Matthew 13:10-23**

God is using the stumbling of Israel to bring the Gospel to the Gentiles in the hope that it will provoke them to jealousy and return to the Lord. **Romans 11:8-15**

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***