

## **The Mystery of the Partial Hardening of Israel (08)**

We are currently studying a series entitled, Mystery Doctrines.

Today we will study the sixth Mystery Doctrine, **The Partial Hardening of Israel** taken from Rom.11:25-28

The fact that the Partial Hardening of Israel is a mystery doctrine places it in the church age.

There are two common interpretations of the Partial Hardening of Israel.

- One idea is partial rather than all of Israel.
- Other idea is partial rather than whole hardening of the heart of an Israelite.

In view of some Jews being saved in the Gospels and the Book of Acts while others were hostile enemies, shows the second idea seems a better interpretation (Disciples of Jesus, Nicodemus, and Paul) and (3,000 saved in Acts 2:41 and adding daily in Acts 2:47).

We know that God caused hardening of Pharaoh's heart during the Exodus (Ex.4:21; 7:13-14, 22; 8:15, 19,22, 32; 9:7, 34-35; 11:10; 14:8, 17-18; Acts 15:1, 11; Gal.2:16, 22; Acts 21:20-24).

<b>This lesson will study four aspects of the Mystery of Partial Hardening of Israel.</b>
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### **1. The Partial Hardening of Israel will continue “until the fullness of the Gentiles has come.” (Rom.11:25b; Acts 15:13-21).**

We will study our lesson text by the following four homiletic points.

- **Grappling** (Rom.11:25a) “For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation.”
- **Gentiles** (Rom.11:25b) “That a partial hardening (porosis) has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in (eiserchomai / a.a.subj).”
- **God's covenant** (Rom.11:26-27; Isa.59:19-21) “And this is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins.”
- **Gospel of Jesus Christ** (Rom.11:28) “From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of God's choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.”

The historical period of the “fullness of the Gentiles” is the church age.

(Luke 21:24) “And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under- foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled (pleroo / a.p.subj).”

2. **During the church age, Israel is under the fifth cycle of divine discipline (Lev.26; Deut.28; Luke 21:24) as well as the partial hardening (Rom. 9:17-18. 30-33; 10:3-4, 16-17; 11:11-14, 25-28).**

**The Curse of Coniah** teaches that Israel will be under the fifth cycle of divine discipline until Jesus Christ returns to sit upon the throne of David.

(Jer.22:30) “Thus says the Lord, ‘write this man down childless, a man who will not prosper in his days; For no man of his descendants will prosper sitting on the throne of David or ruling on the throne of David or ruling again in Judah.” (Jer.24-20)

3. **The Partial hardening of Israel was the result of the rejection of their Messiah’s offer of salvation (John 1:13-14; Acts 13:46-47; Rom.11:11, 14; 2 Cor.3:13-16).**

During the period of the partial hardening, they become enemies of the gospel (Rom.11:28). It became the occasion of the grafting the Gentiles into the plan of God (Rom.11).

(Gal.3:16) “But from the standpoint of God’s choice they are beloved for the sake of **the fathers,**” refers to the biblical genealogy of Jesus Christ. (Rom.9:5, 30-33; 11:28b; Matt.1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38).

Israel has a future role after the church age (Rapture) in the Plan of God (Tribulation) (Rom.11:25-28; Isa.59:19-21).

During the Tribulation the 144,000 from every tribe of Israel will evangelize all the nations with the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rev.7:4-17).

4. **During the Church Age, everyone who believes that Jesus Christ died for their sins and was buried and raised from the dead on the third day (the Gospel) (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; 10:4) becomes a Christian and is no longer identified as a Gentile or a Jew (1 Cor.12:13; Gal.3:26-28).**

The church should evangelize Israelites individually as any unbeliever in need of salvation (1 Tim.1:15) [Paul].

(Rom.10:1) “Brethren, my heart’s desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.”

Pentecost of Acts 2 was the occasion of incorporating regenerate Jews into the body of Christ, the Church (1 Cor.12:13) [The first of four groups].

(Rom.10:21) “But as for Israel He says, ‘All the day long I have stretched out My hand to a disobedient and obstinate people.’ (Isa.65:2)