***The Diminishing of the Jews, and the Riches of the Gentiles
RO146-01***

**© Berean Memorial Church of Irving, Texas, Inc. (1988)**

We are studying Romans 11:11-12. This is segment number four on the subject of "Israel has a Future."

**Israel**

The nation of Israel stumbled over the Lord Jesus Christ when He came to them as their Messiah Savior. Jesus Christ had all the credentials necessary to fulfill the Davidic Covenant as the King of the Jews. The absolute righteousness of Jesus Christ was clearly evident to everyone, and it was never compromised. He was a perfect God-Man. The miracle working power of Jesus Christ, the Bible tells us, confirmed His claim of being sent by God as the Lamb of God and the Messiah King of Israel.

**The Jews were Blinded**

Satan successfully blinded the spiritual leaders of Israel. And the spiritually blinded Jewish people follow their blind guides in rejecting Jesus Christ. Thus, the Jews lost their special place of blessing with God. And today the Jewish nation is on hold with God under divine discipline, while He gathers to Himself a new body of special saints called "the church."

**The Church**

The church, however, I should point out to you, is not some monolithic earthly organization, such as claimed by the Roman Catholic Church and other religious organizations. The church that the Bible speaks of is an invisible body made up of all genuine believers all over the world. There is not an organizational structure that represents that church on earth. The body of Christ, the church, is invisible – made up of all who have trusted in Jesus Christ for their salvation.

However, all over the earth, there are gatherings of members of this invisible body as independent church organizations to pool their resources, to proclaim the Word of God, and to do the Lord's work. They are independent church organizations. Therefore, there is no such thing as the church on earth as an official organization that speaks for God. When you find a religious group that uses the term "the church speaking for God," you immediately know you're talking to somebody that's totally disoriented from the Word of God, and that is a dangerous person to listen to. They will, some place, at some critical point, lead you astray. There is no church structure on this earth. There is nobody in an organizational way that speaks for the living God, and certainly there is no individual who is the voice of God on earth. There is only one voice of God on earth, and that is the written Scriptures. There is only the gathering of believers in separate local assemblies who are guided by the Word of God.

**The Sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross**

The fall of the Jewish nation from God's favor is only temporary, because of the promises of the Abrahamic Covenant, which were eternal, and which have not been fulfilled. The Jewish rejection and crucifixion of Jesus Christ resulted in His payment for the penalty of death for the sins of the world. Jesus was the sacrificial Lamb of God to Whom were imputed the sins of mankind. The death of Jesus Christ satisfied the demands of God's justice to punish sin with death. And the Bible is very clear that the sacrifice for human sin has been made once and for all. There is no more sacrifice to be made. So, all who will accept the payment of Jesus Christ in behalf of their sins are saved from hell, and they go to heaven, because the price has been paid for us.

So, the apostle Paul, here Romans 11:11, says that one of God's purposes in the fall of the Jews from divine favor was to bring salvation to the gentiles. As we pointed out last week, before the church age, a gentile could only be saved by first becoming a Jew. Paul regularly therefore delivered the gospel message first to the Jews in their local synagogue upon arrival in the city. But when the Jews rejected the gospel of grace salvation through Jesus Christ, Paul would then turn to the gentiles who welcomed the message. Well, as the Jews proceeded to reject Jesus Christ, they also saw that something wonderful was happening with the gentiles who did turn to Jesus Christ. They could not help but see that upon them was the blessing of God. The gentiles were being cared for, and were being prospered. The gentiles were becoming a noble people. They were becoming far more elevated personally and in their human relationships than even the Jews. And the Jews gritted their teeth in indignation. The Lord Jesus Christ, Whom they hated, somehow was coming through in some kind of a relationship that was making the gentiles now superior to the Jews in their relationship with God. The Jews were out of God's favor; and, the gentiles now everywhere, were clearly in God's favor.

**To Provoke the Jews to Jealousy**

Consequently, a second divine purpose was brought about as the result of gentile salvation. And we have it in Romans 11:11, where the apostle Paul says that the fall of the Jews from God's favor was not only for the purpose of bringing salvation to the gentiles, but also to provoke the Jews to jealousy. The word "provoke to jealousy" is a very strong word. It looks like this in the Greek Bible: "parazeloo." This means to bestir a bitter spirit of rivalry. It connotes a resentment over being supplanted. The Jews began to get the message very clearly. The gentiles were taking their place with God. God was paying more attention; paying more blessing; and, prospering the gentile who turned to Jesus Christ, than He was His chosen people, the Jews.

The Jews as a whole had this attitude of deep-seated resentment. It was their personal attitude, and in the grammar, this is infinitive, which indicates that it was God's purpose to make them jealous. This is exactly what God wanted to do. The Jews fell in order to make them jealous. Paul is actually quoting a statement here from Deuteronomy 32:21, which precisely says that God is going to handle the resistance of the Jews by making them jealous of those who will listen to God.

So, the temporary fall of the Jews from God's favor served two purposes. One was to make salvation available directly to the gentiles through Jesus Christ; and, two, to make the Jews jealous of the gentiles who were being blessed with the salvation promised to the Jews. And the Jews are constantly trying to relate themselves to the superior position that the gentiles hold in the world today. This is why the Jews are trying to approach the pope, because the pope represents a powerful religious segment in the world today, and the Jews are desperately struggling to get related to every other group in some favorable way, because everybody is against them. They see that, among the genuine biblical Christian community, there is a prosperity, and a care, and an honoring by God that is not characteristic of the Jews. The Jews are always under suffering; under rejection; and, under oppression.

**Israel and the Church**

So, there's a divine purpose. The purpose of making the Jews jealous of the gentiles is to bring them to faith in Jesus Christ. So, gentile salvation is being used by God to restore His Jewish people to their covenant promises. The spiritual transformation of the saved gentiles was deliberately intended by God to cause the Jews to see that they made a great mistake in rejecting Jesus Christ as their Messiah Savior. This divine purpose for gentile salvation, in order to reach the Jews, reinforces the fact that God has separate plans for Israel and the church, and He does not mix the two, or terminate one or the other.

God would not have to worry about the Jews if Israel and the church were the same thing. He would just have to say, "Well, we're just dealing with all of humanity for salvation." But the very fact that this Scripture says that God has saved the gentiles, and now is prospering them, so that the Jews will get jealous and say, "You know, we really missed the boat in rejecting Jesus Christ," so that He can bring the Jewish people back to blessing. What kind of blessing? The blessing of the Abrahamic Covenant.

The amillennialists are wrong again when they say that God is through with the Jewish people as a nation. This very Scripture indicates that God is not terminating one or the other, or mixing the two. But the church and Israel both continue to exist.

**The Average Christian Today**

Often, however, there is very little in saved gentiles to make the Jews jealous today. The average Christian is generally ignorant of basic Bible doctrine categories of truth. So, he is, by and large, a sorry lot. Yes, he's born again, and he's going to heaven. But the average Christian is not too impressive to the Jews. Furthermore, the expression of relationship to God that is so prevalent within the Christian community today, in the form of emotional highs and experiences which are being substituted for spiritual maturity, does not look very attractive to the Jew.

**Charismatics**

The Jew looks upon some group like the Charismatics, and he considers them a bunch of fools. He has the Scriptures, indeed, of the Old Testament as a frame of reference of the dignity and the honor in relating as a people to God, and worshiping Him in a respectful way. The Jew looks upon the legalisms that replace the grace of godliness through the Holy Spirit that exists in the Christian community; and, Christians squabbling with one another over legalistic rules of conduct that the Bible has nothing to say about. The Jews see the human viewpoint church programs promoted in place of the proclamation of the full council of the Word of God. Why should the Jew be impressed with so many churches which are no different than some political organization, or are no different than some social agency trying to improve the lot of human beings? The Jew says, "We do that too. Why should we be impressed with a group of Christians?"

The Jew is not impressed with the empty rituals and the pageantry which is pursued as a way of finding God – the whole religious system of worshiping God by means of some ceremonies that people have invented. The Jew says, "We've had better ceremonies than that. We're one of the original ceremonial systems. Why should we be impressed with Christian groups?" And the Jew is obviously not too impressed with those wonderful, expensive church buildings that are erected by Christians – buildings which are little used during the week, but buildings which are treated as if they were holy objects for their reverence, as if they were sacred places.

There are few stable, godly, manly, womanly Christians about us today to impress the Jewish community that they have lost out in rejecting Jesus Christ. There are very few spiritual maturity structured type of Christians in the world today as springs of living water to attract the loss to the marvelous person of Jesus Christ.

So, the Jew faces a problem. He's supposed to be jealous of us Christians. But, by and large, as Jews look upon Christians, they don't have a great deal to be jealous of. Most Christians are much different in their lifestyle; the things that are important to them; the things they pursue; the things to which we will dedicate ourselves; the responsibilities we will take; and the thing for which we can be counted upon, to any Jew. He is not too impressed. But in God's program, that's the purpose – to save the gentile, and at the same time, out of prospering the gentile, to cause the Jew to have second thoughts about Jesus Christ.

In verse Romans 11:12, we're told about the fullness of Israel. Paul says, "Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world." Paul says, Now, here's an idea: "If (first-class condition – it is true) there has been a fall." And this is that word that we had before. The King James Bible keeps translating different Greek words with the same English words, so it's confusing. This is not the same fall as up in verse 11, where it says, "Have they stumbled that they should fall?" This meant that they smashed to the ground out of divine favor. Here, when he says, "But their fall" is the Greek word "paraptoma." This is a totally different word. "Paraptoma" means "a transgression." It is actually the same word as the second fall in verse 11, where it says, "But rather through their fall, salvation is come." That is the same Greek word, which is: "through their transgression."

So, Paul is referring back to this fall of the Jews in terms of their terrible mistake of rejecting Jesus Christ, and murdering Him on the cross. Paul says, "Through that transgression came great riches to the world" (the "kosmos"), which refers to the world of humanity here. It refers especially to the loss – the riches of the world. Man, by nature is the enemy of God. Anybody who may be sitting here this morning, who is not a born-again believer; who is not a Christian; and, who has not trusted in Jesus Christ, you should recognize that you are an enemy of God, whatever else you may think of yourself. Man, in effect, turns his back on God, and declares that God doesn't exist. The Bible is rejected as the Word of God, and its moral principles are ignored. Man is friendly with the evil world of Satan, but he is expressly antagonistic toward God. Man is self-centered, and he wants to be independent from God.

We also have that same problem among Christians. We watch Christian parents who was absolutely have lost their minds, and gone completely berserk in the things that they pursue in life at the time that they have maximum opportunity to influence their children. They're off pursuing other things in life that they think are going to make a difference a hundred years from now. That's the problem that we have as Christians. We're always thinking about next week, instead of, "Wait a minute. I can do this now, but what good is it a hundred years from now? It has to have some long range values or I don't want to do it." Then, suddenly, everything will fall into perspective as you look at your day and say, "You know, I could do this with my time; or, I could do this with my time. A hundred years from now, this is Bunco. But if I do this a hundred years from now, it'll make a big difference.

**The Enemy of God**

The world is by nature the enemy of God because we are made up of sin natures which are the enemies of God. We are antagonistic toward Him. But through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross – and what you have here is this condition. You have God, and you have man, and they're back-to-back. They are unreconciled. That is the word we use. God has His back toward us because of sin of which we are guilty. Man, because of his sin nature, is antagonistic toward God. So, he turns his back on God. So, there they are: back-to-back. But through the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross (of the God-Man, Jesus Christ), God has enriched the hostile world. And that is what is in this sentence: "Now if the fall of them (if the mistake of the Jews in putting Christ on the cross) be the riches of the world." How was it the riches of the world?

**Propitiation**

It was the riches of the world in this way: that because of the death of Christ on the cross, God was able now to turn and face sinful man. God was propitiated. God didn't have to be reconciled. That would be wrong to say that. But God's justice had to be satisfied before he could take a look at us, and now extend His hands to receive us.

**Reconciliation**

The riches, however, not only included that – that God is in our direction, but that now God has reconciled man. So, man now turns and faces God, so they are facing one another. There is no human being in this world today who cannot be reconciled to God. What does the word reconciled mean? It means to be "adjusted to a standard." When you call time and temperature on the telephone, and you look at your watch, and you listen to the time they give, and then you adjust your watch, you are reconciling your watch to the official standard of time and temperature. God has the standard of absolute righteousness. His justice has been satisfied by the death of Christ. Now He can turn and look at you as a sinner. We, through Christ, when we have accepted Him, have been reconciled to God. And as far as God is concerned, we are reconciled to Him because our sins have been covered. There's no problem between God and me.

**Eternal Security**

So, don't come around and say, "Hey, I have this terrible sin in my life. I have this problem and this problem." That isn't the issue. The issue is what you do with Jesus Christ. God will deal with the sin issue as well. But that is not the issue about being saved. It's not to stop doing something, and behaving yourself. It is facing the fact that God adjusted you to His standard. Now, if you will accept it, your hands grasp, and He takes you to his bosom. You are reconciled to God. That is the riches to which Paul is referring here that we in the world now have. This is what was spoken of back in Romans 5:10-11, when the apostle Paul said, "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life (His resurrected life)." Paul says, "If, when we were enemies of God, our backs turned against Him. He reconciled us to Himself. Now that we have turned to Him and accepted Christ – I can assure you that you are going to be saved by His resurrected life. This verse 10 is one of those testimonies of eternal security. He said, "If God was willing to adjust due to His standard when you were His enemy, now that you have accepted His adjustment, I can assure you that He will never let you go again."

Verse 11 says, "And not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom we have received the reconciliation." So, the riches that have come through the death of Christ is this reconciliation to the standard of God. It describes what the lost sinner receives when he is adjusted with the absolute standard of God. Lost sinners trusting in the Lord Jesus for salvation are thereby adjusted to God's standard of righteousness, and so are justified before God. When you accept Christ, you are reconciled to God; you are adjusted to His standard; and, you are friends, hand-in-hand.

Mrs. is Danish gave me explicit directions not to make any cracks about the pope this morning. And I'm not going to do it, except I want to call to your attention the fact that the pope is standing (and you may have heard him), holding that round wafer, which has to be round. That is because it represents (the original meaning of the wafer), in the Babylonian system, where the Mass originated, it was the worship of the sun-god. So, it had to be round. And when he holds that up, and comes to that dramatic moment of converting it into the body of Christ, so that you may eat it; so that you may receive salvation; and, so you may receive merit toward your eternal life, is a falsehood of the most unmitigated, blasphemous kind. And Americans all over this country are beside themselves with adulation of this representative of Babylonian mystery religion, changing bread into the actual body of Christ, so that you may eat it, and thereby get a little step up toward salvation.

The Word of God says, "You are totally adjusted to the standard of God. We have received the reconciliation. If you know what reconciliation means, and the Bible says, as you've just heard, we have received this reconciliation, that means that you're adjusted. That means that you're completely in tune, positionally, in God's eyes, with His standard of absolute righteousness. You are as good as Jesus Christ, in His right. In your practice, you are not perfect. That will be corrected once you have a resurrection body. But in God's position, in His sight, you are in Christ. Therefore, you're as good as Christ. Therefore, you're totally reconciled to God. That is the riches that our world has received through the death of Christ.

No one goes to heaven by simply adjusting himself to the accepted standards of society in which he lives. That's what people think: "If I adjust myself to the standards of most people, I'm as good as the next person, and God is going to accept me." That is not true. A believer is changed from enmity to friendship with God, on the basis of what Jesus Christ alone has done so. The basis of our reconciliation is this death of Christ. This enrichment of reconciliation of the world, furthermore, is what we are to tell lost people. We are not to tell lost people, "Start working on getting yourself into heaven." We are to tell lost people that God has already potentially reconciled you to Himself. He has adjusted you to His absolute standard of righteousness. He waits for you to accept that reconciliation. That's the good news that we're telling people.

In 2 Corinthians 5:18, this is what Paul points out: "And all things are of God, Who has reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ." Now, do you understand that sentence? God, through Jesus Christ, has made us as perfect as Himself. He has adjusted us to His standard: "And has given us the ministry of reconciliation." We Christians have to proclaim this truth: "To wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation." God handled your trespasses by putting them on Christ, not by putting them on you: "Now then, we Christians are ambassadors for Christ, as though Christ did beseech you by us. We beg you, in Christ's stead, be reconciled to God." God has reconciled you. But that's of no value to you unless you say, "I'm going to turn around. Instead of having my back toward a God who has been propitiated (satisfied toward my sin), I'm going to turn around, and I am going to accept His provision. At that moment, you become reconciled in the record of the book of life in heaven – the Lamb's Book of Life.

The divine provision of reconciliation becomes effective, in other words, for a lost person, when he trusts in Jesus Christ for salvation. And reconciliation, as I pointed out, ensures internal security in your salvation – the fact of the doctrine of reconciliation enables believers to sleep peacefully at night, and to walk confidently by day.

So, the riches of the world here refers to the salvation by grace through Jesus Christ, Who provided the ground for reconciling the lost center to the Holy God. The Jews' transgression of killing Jesus Christ on the cross actually resulted in the ground of reconciliation of the world to God.

**The "Diminishing of" The Jews**

Romans 11:12 goes on and says, "Now if the transgression of them be the riches of the world." This is first-class condition "if" – and it is: "Since their fall has become our enrichment, and the diminishing of them." The word "diminishing" is the word "hettema." This refers to a loss or a failure. It connotes a military style defeat. This was experienced by the Jewish nation when it rejected Jesus Christ. The great loss to Israel was their special place of favor with God.

**The Riches of the Gentiles**

If the failure of the Jews results in the riches of the gentiles, the enrichment of all the non-Jews and the access that this gave them to God through the reconciliation that was provided, how much more their fullness? And here is a logical conclusion. The riches of the gentiles consisted in their personal transformation. The vilest sinner of the gentiles can go to heaven. The most arrogant intellectual gentile can find true wisdom. The most sexually perverted gentile can be restored to purity. The greatest secular humanist gentile can find the divine viewpoint of God. The gentile who is the most abject slave to himself and to his sensual desires, and to destructive habits, can find release. This is the riches of the gentiles. If the fall of the Jew, in crucifying Christ, resulted in all these marvelous advantages for the gentiles, how much more the fullness of the Jew.

**An Even Greater Blessing to the Gentiles**

The word "fullness" is the Greek word play "pleroma." And that word refers to the complete restoration of the Jews to their place of blessing with God. There will be a time when the Jewish nation is going to realize its mistake, and it's going to accept Jesus Christ as its Messiah Savior. There will be a time when the discipline of God upon the Jews is going to be removed, and they will be restored to the fullness of the blessing of the Abrahamic Covenant. In this condition of holiness, the Jews will be of even greater blessing to the gentiles than they were in their loss. Can you believe that? When the Jews are restored to a place of favor with God, there is going to be even a greater blessing to the gentile world?

Thus, Paul's argument is: "If the rejection of the Jews has resulted in so much blessing to the world, how much more may be expected through them, when they are again accepted into God's favor?"

So, what's the era of Jewish fullness? This is a time when the Jews, as a nation, will accept Jesus Christ as Messiah Savior. Divine discipline will be removed from them to end their rejection of the oppression; all of the suffering; and, all of the death the Jews have experienced. Specifically, the future era of the Millennial Kingdom is a view here, with Jesus Christ ruling over all the nations of the earth. You may read Psalm 2, and compare it with Acts 4:25-26, which describe where God declares that He's going to send His king. And all the nations of the earth are going to rise up to reject this king. And Psalm 2 says that God sits up in heaven and laughs: "Even He," and this is talking about God in what we call anthropomorphic terms – terms we can understand like a human being. This is too much for God. God shakes His head, and says, "This is ridiculous." And He laughs. These puny characters, these nations of the world, pompously going to cut down Jesus Christ when He says, "I'm here now to rule the world." During the millennium, human society is going to be transformed in all nations. Jesus Christ will rule upon this earth for 1,000 years.

Mankind has, since the Garden of Eden, sought a condition of universal peace and prosperity. Unsaved man, under Satan's guidance, has been seeking to create just such a golden age through socialism; through atheism; and, through the power of government. And every effort has been a failure. Satan has been trying to create his own millennium, and he can't do it. All such efforts have failed, and they never can succeed without the Lord Jesus Christ in charge. You have to have the right kind of leader. Where you're going to find the right kind of politician? Where can you expect to go with morally degenerate leadership?

Along comes Jesus Christ, a Person Who indeed can have the authority to rule the world, and has the moral character and quality necessary to do it God's way. Without the moral character required to do it God's way, you will do it your way – the way of the sin nature.

So, all such efforts have failed. Jesus Christ, the Bible tells us, is going to return to earth with all of you who are sitting in this room, and all of the believers, past and present, who are in the church, the body of Christ. We come back as His bride, after the tribulation era, to begin a 1,000-year theocracy on this earth. This is precisely the fulfillment which was proclaimed to the mother of Jesus when she was told that she would bear this child. In Luke 1:32-33, she was told that He would rule forever on this earth from the throne of King David.

**The Judgment of the Jews**

Revelation 20:4 refers to Jesus Christ in the same way. All of the Jews, the Bible tells us, who have survived the seven-year tribulation era of suffering and death, are then going to be divided into two groups. Some of the Jews, through the administrative the 144,000 evangelists (the Jewish evangelists) will believe in Christ and trust in Him. A large number of the Jews (probably most) will not. When Jesus Christ returns, Ezekiel 20:34-38 tell us, that He's going to take the Jews and divide them into two groups: saved; and, unsaved. Then we're told that He takes the saved Jews, and puts them into the millennium. He takes the unsaved Jews out into the wilderness, and He puts them to death. So, only born again to start the millennium.

**The Judgment of the Gentiles**

We're also told that God does the same thing with the gentiles. He pulls them all together, and He separates them into two groups. Those who, through the tribulation, would not trust in Christ are called "goats." Those who did trust in Christ are called "sheep." God takes the sheep, and He puts them into the millennial kingdom. He takes the goats of the gentiles, and we're told that he puts them to death (Matthew 25:31-46).

**The Millennium**

Can you imagine the world? Jesus Christ, the perfect God-Man Son of God, the Creator Himself, now sits upon a throne in Jerusalem, ruling over all the nations of the world, which have now bowed in subjection to Him. And everybody in every one of these nations, whether he's a Jew or a gentile, is born again. This will be a world where everybody is born again. This will be a world where everybody, upon death, is going to go to heaven. Now that is going to be some society. Great changes are going to take place.

**Satan and All False Religions will be Gone**

Do you see what Paul saying? When the fullness of the Jews comes in, just think what the gentiles are going to have then. I'll tell you. The arch enemy of God, Satan, is going to be bound in the pit of the abyss with all of his demons. So, all false religion is going to be removed from this earth. Revelation 20:1-3 tell us that. There'll be no more Roman Catholicism; there'll be no more Islam; there'll be no more Buddhism; there'll be no more Mormonism; there'll be no more Protestant liberalism; and, there'll be no more cults. All false religion will be gone, because Satan is gone, the creator of false religion. Now you have a world not only with only born-again people, but with no satanic influence, and with no demonic influence. Now that has cleaned up things quite a bit. That is indeed a step up for the gentile world that they have never had before.

At the start of this era, the millennium, the tribulation and the Old Testament saints who have died are now going to be resurrected so that they can come into the millennial kingdom. Daniel 12:1-2 tell us about the resurrection of all of those Old Testament saints: David; Moses; and, everybody on back down, all the way to Adam. They're all raised now to enter into this Millennial Kingdom. They, of course, will be there in resurrected bodies, while these other people who entered as Jews and gentiles will be a body such as ours, still with a sin nature.

**Jesus Christ will Rule the Nations with Absolute Authority**

The reign of Jesus Christ, we're told, is going to extend over all the nations of the earth (Zechariah 14:9, Daniel 2:34-35, Daniel 2:44-45, and Revelation 19:16). All those verses clearly declare to us that the rule of Jesus Christ will be over every nation. The Jews, furthermore, will be regathered from all over the earth to Palestine. And Israel will become the superpower nation of the millennium. It will be executing the will of God. Ezekiel 37:21-22, Zechariah 8:13, and Zechariah 8:23 very clearly declare that the Jews are going to run the show.

**Jerusalem will be the Capital City of the World**

Furthermore, in Jeremiah 3:17, we're told that Jerusalem will be the capital city of the world. It was impressive to me a few years ago, when I visited Jerusalem, to see all over the city, every place you looked, there were these huge cranes, building projects. And when I looked out across that, I said to Mrs. Danish, "Look at that. Jerusalem is being prepared to be the magnificent capital of the world."

Isaiah 11:4 and Revelation 19:15 tell us that Jesus Christ will exercise absolute authority over all nations. He will rule as a man who has a rod of iron, and He hits you over the head if you rebel. There will be a time of great spiritual ecstatic under full control of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-29). The government will be a government of perfect righteousness and justice, with no open sin or rebellion toward divine viewpoint principles tolerated. You will not be able to break the rules. Isaiah 9:7, Isaiah 11:3-5, and Zechariah 14:16-19 make it very clear that God's government will be absolutely just and absolutely righteous.

**Universal Peace**

We're told, in Isaiah 11:9, that Bible doctrine truth will be proclaimed throughout the whole world, so that mankind will worship God in spirit and in truth. All false religion will be gone. We're told that there will be universal peace on this earth: with no armies: no weapons; and, no war colleges. Isaiah 2:4 and Micah 4:3 proclaim that to us. Imagine that: a world where nobody ever does the manual of arms anymore; a world where nobody ever drills anymore; and, a world where people look at pictures, and remember how folks used to salute, and used to march in formation. They just won't know anything about that. That will be alien to them.

**Freedom from Natural Disasters and Hunger**

We're told that the curse of God will be removed from nature when the fullness of the Jews comes in, resulting in freedom from natural disasters. There'll be maximum food production to eliminate hunger and famine (Romans 19-22, Isaiah 35:6-7, and Isaiah 41:18).

**No Harm from Animals**

Animals will change. There will be no more poisonous snakes; no more ferocious lions; no animal will be ferocious; none will harm; and, none will kill (Isaiah 11:6-9, Isaiah 65:25).

**No More Poverty**

There will be no poverty because there will be an economic system on this earth of free-enterprise, private-property incentive. Here is Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, ruling this whole world. And it is the most prosperous time humanity has ever had. There is plenty of food; plenty of fun; plenty of games; plenty of shelter; plenty of clothing; and, plenty of everything (Micah 4:4, Isaiah 65:21-22).

**Life Span Extended**

Life span is going to be extended to hundreds of years because of divine healing, which will be available, and because of principles of good health, which will be followed (Isaiah 65:20). There'll be great joy everywhere as people enjoy maximum opportunities for divine good service, and for their personal development and recreation. Isaiah 61:3, Isaiah 12:3-4, Isaiah 33:24, and Isaiah 35:5-6 tell us what a wonderful happy lifestyle everyone will have in the millennium.

**Marriage and Family**

We're told that marriage and family will be exalted as the cornerstone of social relationships. Jeremiah 33:10-11 and Zechariah 8:4-5 declare that to us.

I wish we had time to go through all these verses together, but if you are interested, you can pursue those you will see, indeed, that hundreds of years ago, the prophets looked down the corridors of time and saw the Millennial Kingdom over which the Savior would be ruling, and it was going to be the golden age of the earth. All this, in the wonderful world of tomorrow, is yet ahead of us when the nation of Israel is again back on track with God, and enjoying the fullness of blessing under the Abrahamic covenant. When they were enemies of God, we received salvation. When they get back to being on track with God, and they are back in the fullness of their promised blessings, the whole world will be transformed because of the Jewish people.

However, I remind you that you will be there in Jerusalem with Jesus Christ, dispatched all over the world as His agents of authority. You're going to have a rank above the Jews. You will be the administrators – you Christians, as the body of Christ, His consort, will be reigning with Him on His throne. And that is real power, because when you then speak, your words will carry all the authority of the living God.

Pope John Paul II says that when he sits upon his throne, and makes a pronouncement ex-cathedra (from the throne), out of his mouth pours the words of God. In 1950, the last time he sat on that throne, he stepped up there; sat on the throne; and, said, "I hereby declare that Mary ascended physically alive into heaven, just like her Son. He had to do that so that it would make some sense to be praying to her. It's not much sense to pray to a dead person. That's all bunco. You people will indeed be speaking ex-cathedra, when you are in the millennium, ruling with Jesus Christ, and you will have the power and authority that you cannot even begin to imagine. And that is all because the Jews are back in blessing. Thank God that we live in the area of the church age.

Dr. John E. Danish, 1988

[**Back to the Romans index**](http://www.christiandataresources.com/romans.htm)

[**Back to the Bible Questions index**](http://www.christiandataresources.com/allarticles.htm)