

1. Because God has now loved the entire world, as opposed to just the nation of Israel, He has now given His Son for the salvation of the elect from every nation.
2. If God had not left an elect remnant of Israel in the old Testament, there would have been no hope of a coming Messiah in Jesus Christ to offer salvation to the world.
3. In other words, when Jesus Christ came, almost all the Jews rejected faith in Him and were not saved, while many Gentiles received Jesus by faith and were saved. How can this be, since Israel is the chosen people of God?
4. Instead of Jesus turning out to be the salvation of the Jews, God made Him into a stumbling stone. Rather than embracing Jesus Christ as their salvation by believing in Him, they took offense at Him. Through Christ, God hardened the hearts of Israel instead of offering them mercy.
5. However, while in one sense God desires and commands that everyone should come to Christ for salvation, He has a higher purpose in hardening the heart of Israel for a time, in this case, so that He might demonstrate His mercy to the Gentiles. By the end of chapter 11, we will see this more clearly.
6. The Jews do indeed have zeal, but zeal is not enough to be saved. The zeal that they have is not according to knowledge. They do not understand that the righteousness of God lies only in trusting in Christ's righteousness and not in establishing our own righteousness through works.
7. We see that no matter how hard we try, we cannot obey the Law on our own. So, we can turn to Jesus Christ, who obeys the Law perfectly in our place, trusting in His righteousness as our own. Only in this way can we receive His salvation.

### Application

1. Pray with Paul and share his heart's desire for the salvation of the lost.
2. Do not try to establish your own salvation by works.
3. Have Christ as your righteousness.