Chapter 11

1. "For _____ has come to the gentiles." (v11)

The Jews have stumbled, but they have not fallen away completely. Moreover, God has used their tragedy for good, in that because of it the gateway of salvation has been opened to the Gentiles. This shows US that God can turn our failures into Good!

2. "For if the ______ is holy, the _____ is also holy; if the root is _____, so are the branches" (v16) Theodore of Mopsuestia: By "first fruits" Paul means Christ, because he was selected out of the entire race of the Jews; by "root" he means Abraham, from whom the race descended.



The "trees" of Israel (Judges 9)

Israel as a nation = the fig tree (Matthew 21)

Israel's spiritual state = the vine (Isaiah 5)

Israel's salvation = the olive tree (Romans 11)

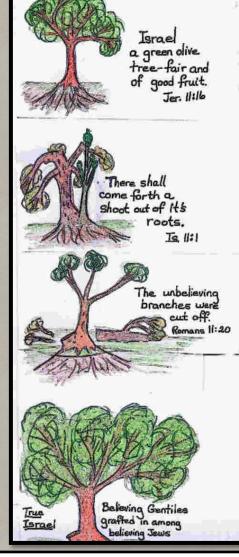
3. "...You do not ______ the root, but the root _____ you" (v18)

The Gentiles have been shown mercy because of the stumbling of the Jews, but they must be careful not to boast!

4. "For who has known the _____ of the Lord? "who has become His _____?" "who has _____ given to Him and it shall be _____ to him" (v34-6)

AMBROSIASTER: It is clear that only God knows everything and it is only he who lacks nothing, because everything comes from him. No one can understand or measure this knowledge, because the inferior cannot comprehend what is superior to it. Jewish believers could not understand that the salvation of the Gentiles could be God's plan and will. Likewise, it seemed unlikely and incredible to the Gentiles that the Jews, who had not believed, could be converted or accepted as believers.

5. "For of Him and through Him and to Him are_____ things, to whom be ______ forever. Amen" (v36) All glory belongs to the lord! As soon as I think that I am good because of ME, I am stealing God's glory! Be careful...



The above diagram displays the portion of scripture in Romans 11 in graphic form. The story is this. The natural olive branches (the Jews) were cut off because of unbelief in the Messiah. God grafted into the tree wild olive branches (the Gentiles). BUT then it goes on to say that God will re-graft the natural branches (the Jews) back into their own tree and will cut off many wild branches (Gentiles) as they reject what God is doing.

Chapter 12

1.	"Do not be	to this world, but be	by the renewi	ng of your
	, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable		acceptable and	will of
	God" (v2)			

Our mind is renewed by the practice of wisdom and reflection on the Word of God and the spiritual understanding of his law. The more one reads the Scriptures daily and the greater one's understanding is, the more one is renewed always and every day. I doubt whether a mind which is lazy toward the holy Scriptures and the exercise of spiritual knowledge can be renewed at all. Hence, reading the BIBLE DAILY is IMPORTANT!!!!!

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2. "...all the members of the body do not have the same _____" (v4)

ORIGEN: One person gives all his energy to the wisdom of God and the teaching of the Word; he is the eye of the whole body. Another, as we said above, looks after the needs of the brethren and of the poor; he is the hand of the holy body. Another is an attentive listener to the Word of God; he is the ear of the body. Another is busy admonishing the slack, comforting the suffering and aiding those in need; he is without any doubt called the foot of the body of the church. Each of these has his special task, but none can function properly without the others. Which part of the body are you?

3. "repay no one evil with _____" (v17)

AMBROSIASTER: The law said: "Love your neighbor and hate your enemy," but the Lord says: "Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of God." Therefore, in order for this to be the case, it is taught that we should not repay evil with evil.

4. "Vengeance is mine, I will ______" says the Lord (v19)

Chrysostom: What the injured man mosthat he does not try to avenge himself. Leave it to God to follow up the wrongs done to you. t desires to see is revenge, and God will give it to him in full measure, provided



Overcome Evil With Good Romans 12:21 5. "Overcome evil with _____" (v21)

Our enemy acts in such a way as to divert us from our purpose, looking for an opportunity to make us sin. Therefore if we are provoked by him and do not reply in kind, we overcome him with good.