**QUESTION**

**11 1**I ask, then, has God rejected his people?

**ANSWER**

By no means!

**EXPLANATION**

For I myself am an Israelite,
a descendant of Abraham,
a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

**2** God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel?

**3** “Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.” (1 Kings 19:10, 14)

**4** But what is God's reply to him?

“I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.” (1 Kings 19:18)

**5** So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace.

**6** But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works;

otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

**QUESTION**

**7** What then?

 **ANSWER**

Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking.

The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened,

**EXPLANATION**

**8** as it is written,

“God gave them a spirit of stupor,
eyes that would not see
and ears that would not hear,
down to this very day.” (Deuteronomy 29:4 with Isaiah 29:10)

**9** And David says,

“Let their table become a snare and a trap,
 a stumbling block and a retribution for them;
**10** let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see,
and bend their backs forever.” (Psalm 69:22-23)