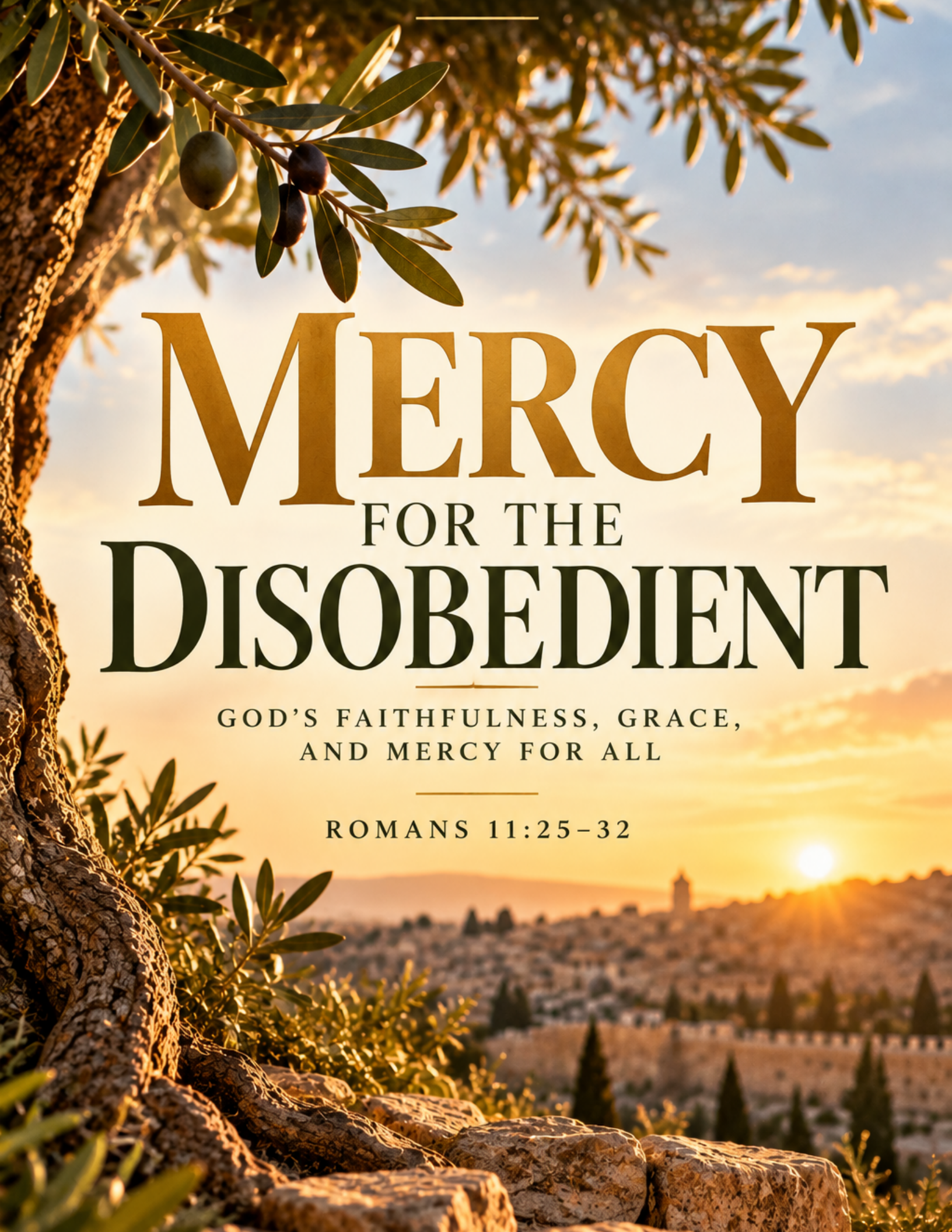




MERCY FOR THE DISOBEDIENT

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS, GRACE,
AND MERCY FOR ALL

ROMANS 11:25-32

Day 1 – When God’s Promises Seem Unfulfilled

Reading: Romans 11:25–27

“And so all Israel will be saved.” — Romans 11:26

Reflection

Have you ever wondered whether God would keep a promise?

Maybe you’ve prayed for years, but nothing seems to change. What you see doesn’t seem to fit with what you believe about God.

The Gentile believers in Rome faced a similar question.

God had made promises to Israel. Yet many Israelites had rejected Jesus. Had God’s promises failed?

Paul reveals something they couldn’t have understood on their own.

Israel’s hardening was partial, and God’s purposes were not finished.

Paul doesn’t explain every detail. He doesn’t give a timetable. But he points toward God’s continuing work and the Deliverer who takes away sin.

God’s faithfulness was not limited by what they could see.

Neither is it limited by what we can see.

That doesn’t mean every situation will turn out as we hope. But it reminds us that God’s purposes are greater than our understanding.

When you cannot see how God is working, remember who He is. **He is faithful.**

Reflection Questions

- Where am I struggling to trust God’s faithfulness?
- Have I confused what I can see with all that God is doing?
- What does this passage teach me about God’s purposes?

Practice

Name one situation where you cannot see what God is doing. Instead of trying to figure everything out, bring it before Him and ask for the grace to trust His faithfulness.

Prayer

Faithful God, when I cannot understand Your ways, help me trust Your character. Remind me that Your purposes are greater than what I can see. Amen.

Day 2 – Beloved Despite Disobedience

Reading: Romans 11:28–29

“For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.” — Romans 11:29

Reflection

Can someone be disobedient to God and still be loved by Him?

Paul says something remarkable about Israel.

From the standpoint of the gospel, they were enemies. Yet because of God’s promises to their ancestors, they remained beloved.

Their unbelief had not erased God’s promises.

God had made promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. And Israel’s history was filled with moments of disobedience.

Yet God had not abandoned His covenant purposes.

Paul reminds us that God’s gifts and calling are irrevocable.

That doesn’t mean unbelief doesn’t matter. It doesn’t mean everyone is automatically saved.

But it does mean **God’s faithfulness is not as fragile as human faithfulness.**

Think about your own life. Have there been times when you’ve failed to obey God?

His grace doesn’t excuse that disobedience. It calls you to turn back to Him.

The God who takes sin seriously is also the God who remains faithful.

Reflection Questions

- When have I struggled to believe God could still love me?
- Have I confused God’s patience with approval of disobedience?
- How does His faithfulness encourage me to return to Him?

Practice

Think of a time when you failed to obey God. Bring it honestly before Him, confess it, and thank Him for His mercy.

Prayer

Faithful God, thank You that Your love is not as fragile as my faithfulness. Help me take sin seriously, trust Your promises, and respond to Your mercy with obedience. Amen.

Day 3 – Don’t Forget Your Own Disobedience

Reading: Romans 11:30–31

“For just as you once were disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy...” — Romans 11:30

Reflection

Why is it so much easier to recognize someone else’s sin than our own?

We can see their pride, selfishness, or refusal to obey God. And sometimes we’re right about what we see.

But Paul reminds the Gentile believers of something they needed to remember.

They had been disobedient, too.

Before receiving the gospel, they had lived in disobedience to God. Yet God had shown them mercy.

Now they were tempted to look down on Israel for rejecting Jesus.

But how could they boast when everything they had received came through mercy?

The same question applies to us.

It’s easy to compare our faithfulness with someone else’s failures. But when we remember how much we depend upon God’s grace, pride begins to lose its grip.

Someone else’s disobedience doesn’t make us more deserving of God’s mercy.

We all need His grace. And remembering that should change how we treat one another.

Reflection Questions

- Whose disobedience am I quicker to notice than my own?
- Have I allowed spiritual pride to affect how I treat someone?
- How has remembering God’s mercy changed my attitude toward others?

Practice

The next time you recognize sin in someone else’s life, pause before judging them. Ask God to examine your own heart, and thank Him for the mercy He has shown you.

Prayer

Merciful God, forgive me when I see others’ failures more clearly than my own. Keep me humble, grateful, and mindful of the mercy You’ve shown me. Amen.

Day 4 – The Mercy No One Deserved

Reading: Romans 11:32

“For God has shut up all in disobedience so that He may show mercy to all.” — Romans 11:32

Reflection

What could you possibly bring before God that would make you deserving of His mercy?

Your obedience? Your faithfulness? Your good works?

Paul brings both Israel and the Gentiles face-to-face with the same reality.

Both had been disobedient. Neither deserved God’s favor.

And neither do we.

We’ve all had moments when we knew what God wanted and chose something else. We’ve failed to love Him and our neighbors as we should.

If salvation depended upon our ability to earn God’s favor, what hope would we have?

But Paul doesn’t end with our disobedience.

He points us toward God’s mercy.

The God we’ve disobeyed is the very God who has acted to save us through Jesus Christ.

God didn’t overlook our sin. He dealt with it through His Son.

Mercy isn’t something we earn. It’s something we desperately need and God graciously offers.

And that leaves no room for boasting—only gratitude.

Reflection Questions

- Have I ever acted as though I deserved God’s favor?
- Where am I still trying to earn what God offers by grace?
- How does Christ’s sacrifice help me understand the cost of mercy?

Practice

Spend a few moments reflecting on Romans 11:32. Thank God for showing mercy to people who could never earn it—including you.

Prayer

Merciful Father, I have nothing to offer that could earn Your favor. Thank You for sending Jesus to save me. Help me receive Your mercy with humility and gratitude. Amen.

Day 5 – Never Lose Your Wonder at God’s Mercy

Reading: Romans 11:25–32

“For God has shut up all in disobedience so that He may show mercy to all.” — Romans 11:32

Reflection

When was the last time you were truly amazed by God’s mercy?

Sometimes we become so familiar with the gospel that we forget just how extraordinary it is.

We know Jesus died for our sins. We know God offers forgiveness. But those truths can become so familiar that we stop marveling at them.

Paul has spent three chapters wrestling with God’s faithfulness, Israel’s unbelief, and the salvation of the Gentiles.

And what does he discover at the heart of God’s purposes?

Mercy.

Neither Israel nor the Gentiles could claim to deserve God’s favor. And neither can we.

Yet the God who has every right to judge our disobedience is the very God who sent His Son to save us.

Jesus gave His life for sinners and rose again so that those who turn to Him in repentance and faith might be forgiven.

We don’t belong to Christ because we’ve been good enough. We belong to Him because God has been merciful.

When we begin to understand mercy like that, how can we do anything but stand in awe of Him?

Reflection Questions

- Have I become so familiar with God’s mercy that I’ve stopped marveling at it?
- How does remembering what Christ has done change the way I approach God?
- What would it look like to live with greater gratitude for His mercy?

Practice

Take a few minutes today to thank God for His mercy. Don’t begin by asking Him for anything. Simply remember what He has done for you through Jesus Christ, and give Him praise.

Prayer

Merciful God, forgive me when I take Your grace for granted. Thank You for saving me through Jesus Christ. May I never lose my wonder at Your mercy. Amen.