Has God Cancelled His Promises to Israel? Part 3 John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 11:1-10.

B. Only when God loses everything will Israel cease to be his people. The rejection of Israel does not change the promises of God. (Jeremiah 31:35-36, Isaiah 43:1, Zechariah 8:20-23)

C. The Jews were to be the people that brought the name of God to the nations, but they tragically failed to do this. (Romans 2)

D. The day will come when the nation will fulfill its purpose.

E. The setting aside of Israel is partial, passing and purposeful.

II. The setting aside is partial.

A. God could not totally set aside Israel otherwise Paul would not be redeemed.

B. There always exists a true remnant. God chooses that remnant.

C. God has revealed that the nation has not obtained salvation but they have not been permanently set aside.

1. God hardens Israel for a time like God hardened Pharaoh. His hardening is a process of continual willful rejection. It is a judicial thing. (Luke 22:22)

2. The present day unbelief of Israel does not violate the plan of God--it is the plan of God. (Deuteronomy 29:4, Isaiah 29:10, Psalm 69:23)

Application Questions:

1. Why was Israel set aside?

2. What proof is given that Israel's setting aside was only partial?

3. What is the hardening of God and why should it not be understood as a deterministic act?