

Did the Jews Not Understand?

Romans 10:19-21

Romans 10:18-21

"This is generally taken to mean: Didn't the Jews understand that the gospel was meant to be preached to the Gentiles? They did because the Old Testament (Moses, Isaiah, and other Old Testament Writers) prophesied it. I do not agree with this. I think Paul means: Didn't the Jews understand the gospel? They did, because they were provoked to jealousy when the Gentiles, upon whom they had often looked disparagingly, believe it. Do you see how this works? If Paul's countrymen did not understand the Gospel of salvation by grace through the work of Christ—if it was utter foolishness to them— why would they have had such an emotional reaction when it was proclaimed among the Gentiles? It would have been just another example of Gentile foolishness in religious matters. "Who cares what the Gentiles believe?" they would say. "Let them believe anything they'd like, as long as we have our Judaism, which, as we know, is superior in every way. But that was not the reaction Paul was seeing. Instead of detached indifference and smug superiority, there was jealousy and anger on the Jews' part. This indicated that they understood very well what was happening. They knew that the message being received by the Gentiles was a message of salvation by the grace of God apart from keeping the law and that it was being taught not as a contradiction of Judaism, but as a fulfillment of it. This is what made it so offensive." —James Montgomery Boice

1.) Grace makes People Angry.

Romans 10:20-21

2.) God Loves Angry People.