

Various opinions have advanced over the centuries to interpret what the Apostle Paul is asserting when he speaks of "all Israel." Some have viewed the term as a reference to the whole Jewish community, both in the present state of Israel and beyond. They teach that before the Lord's return, there will come, through the mercy of God, a great world-wide turning of all Jews to Jesus the Messiah.

Another position put forward is that the term "all Israel" refers to the whole community of believers, both Jews and Gentiles. However, while Paul does use the term "Israel" elsewhere in reference to the Church, in the larger context of Romans he makes a clear distinction between the two. Therefore, he is most likely inviting the reader to take the term at face value.

That established, the ancestry of most Jews in Israel and around the world today is still the subject of much debate.

Contrary to the prevailing view in many evangelical circles, some researchers insist the majority are Jews by religion only, and not by blood. They say there is extensive historical and DNA Research to prove their genome is Khazar, which is of Turkish Mongol origin.

If this is correct, Paul's historical use of the term "remnant" to describe a preserved part of Jacob's biological descendants coming to the faith would actually be synonymous with the term "all Israel" to describe their end-time ingathering.