

## GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION INCLUDES ISRAEL – PART 3

--ROMANS 11:11-24--

### INTRODUCTION:

In Romans 11 we have seen that salvation has come to Gentiles because of the unbelief by the Jews. Our salvation is to provoke them to jealousy and bring about their salvation. Paul uses his apostleship of Gentiles to provoke the Jews to jealousy in hopes that some will be saved.

We ended last week looking at two examples that showed if part was holy then the whole was holy. If Abraham was holy to the Lord, then His descendants are holy to the Lord, therefore the promises made to Abraham must be fulfilled for Israel to maintain God's own holiness and faithfulness.

This morning Paul expands on the illustration of the root and the branches to warn Gentiles not to become arrogant and conceited.

### I. THE TREE EXAMPLE EXPANDED (Romans 11:17-22)

- a. Speaking through the prophet Isaiah God said to Israel in Isaiah 51:1-2, *“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, Who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were hewn And to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father And to Sarah who gave birth to you in pain; When he was but \_\_\_\_\_ I called him, Then I blessed him and multiplied him.”* (Isaiah 51:1–2, NASB95)
- b. Paul then expands on this illustration of the \_\_\_\_\_ to give a warning to the Gentiles.
- c. Paul uses this practice of \_\_\_\_\_ to make his point. (Matthew 21:43)
- d. Unbelieving, unfaithful, unproductive branches of Israel were \_\_\_\_\_ off and in their place that of a wild olive tree was \_\_\_\_\_ in, the believing Gentiles. (Romans 4:9-12)
- e. Paul now issues a command to his Gentile readers, to us, a command based on the truth that we are joint \_\_\_\_\_ with the Jewish believers without being or becoming a Jew. (Galatians 3:6-9)

- f. Paul knew that there would be those Gentiles who would not be convinced even with the clear \_\_\_\_\_ of this illustration and he anticipated what their argument would be.
- g. I need to stop here and explain what I mean when I say \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Thessalonians 2;1-3; 1 Timothy 4:1)
- h. How are these apostates even \_\_\_\_\_ into the tree is they are not true believers? (Revelation 17)

### CONCLUSION:

This morning we began looking at the expanded illustration of the root and a tree that was introduced to us last week. From this passage, from this illustration we understand that some of the branches which represent Israel were broken off because of their unbelief, and the Gentiles were grafted in to the tree to partake of the rich root of the tree, which represents the covenant of salvation that God made with Abraham. We have become joint heirs with the Jewish remnant in the blessings of salvation. In this illustration, Paul is issuing a warning to the church to not become arrogant or conceited concerning our salvation because salvation did not come through us, but through God's covenant with Abraham. We cannot become conceited because those branches that were broken off were broken off because of their unbelief, we were grafted in because of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. To be a part of the tree of God's grace has nothing to do with who you are, or what you have done or will do, it is entirely based on faith. There are some who look like they are grafted into the tree, but they are apostates, they are not truly believers, they are like those descendants of Abraham who looked like they were part of the covenant but were cut off because of unbelief. The apostasy of the church is taking place and will continue to take place, we as a local church must be on constant guard, we must be vigilant to not allow it to infiltrate our ranks. Paul gave a similar warning to the elders of Ephesus in Acts 20:28-32. Let's heed Paul's warning to the elders in Ephesus to be on guard and to be alert.