

The Olive Tree Message!

by Roger Walkwitz

Just what is the "Olive Tree Message!" Many do not know, because they are familiar with only a few parts of Scripture. It is such a vital teaching, that we gentile Believers need to know it well!! You will see as we proceed....and this is only hitting the high points!

Some consider Romans 9-11 a "parenthesis," going from Chapter 8 directly to chapter 12! One teacher in Jerusalem told us that at the Lutheran Seminary he attended in USA, they studied Romans only up to chapter 8! He often wondered why until he went to Israel to learn Hebrew. There he was able to understand the subtle anti-Semitism of many "Christians," who don't like to deal with Romans 9-11. We decided to take up this ministry....part of a firm foundation for every true Believer!

Romans 9:4-6 says, "They are Israelites. To THEM belong the sonship, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to THEM belong the patriarchs and from whom according to the flesh is the Messiah, the One being God over all, blessed unto the ages. Amen." What do gentiles have? Nothing beyond the covenant with Noah in Genesis 9! Yeshua said in John 4:22, "...salvation is from the Jews." That is absolutely true but is a bitter Truth to swallow for someone who does not like Jews or anything Jewish! Some even try to make Yeshua a black, or brown, or white...and insist that Luke was a gentile, so at least two Bible books were written by gentiles! No truth whatsoever.

Because only a remnant, a small portion of Jews ever truly put their trust in God, the question came up (Romans 11:1-2) "I say then, did God reject His people (in favor of the Church as many teach today)? Absolutely not! I myself am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew." All of God's plans, prophecies, promises for this world involve the Jews, so He will not reject them! That is why the Jew is still around, after terrible persecution, while other ancient

peoples have disappeared. The Jew is the prime satanic target, to stop God's plans!!

The heart of the matter for us is in Romans 11:13-25. God, through Paul, is talking directly to gentile Believers. The good Jewish Olive Tree is the life of God, the Family of God, to which all true Believers are attached as branches. The roots are the Patriarchs: Avraham, Yitzzak, and Yaacov. Some (not all!) Jewish branches were broken off because of their unbelief. Gentile Believers were taken out of their wild olive tree (the worldly system we were in, separated from Messiah, aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world (Ephesians 2:12) and grafted into the good Jewish Olive Tree, leaving all pagan beliefs and practices behind...important!!

"But if SOME of the branches were broken off, and you (gentile) being a wild olive were grafted in AMONG them and became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, boast not against the branches. If you do boast, remember it is not you that supports the root, but the root supports you (Romans 11:17-18)." Other warnings given are, "do not become proud," "neither will He spare you," "if you continue in His kindness," "lest you be wise in your own conceits." We need to have a good understanding of the Sovereignty of God and His graciousness to us!! We must recognize and accept the Jewish roots of our Faith, and the very different lifestyle we need to adopt since we are grafted in among Jewish Believers and share with them what God has given them. Churches, hanging on to their Traditions, want to deny all of this, or "play games with it." If you want to "walk with God," then please study this and make the necessary changes in your lifestyle and in your congregation. It will take time, but if you are serious with God, He will guide your study and application, so you will not be ashamed at His Coming.

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem...pray for Jewish people everywhere...show agapao to any Jew you meet. Our attitude and lifestyle might make some jealous that we have inherited their inheritance!!!