

*Grafted In!**Romans 11:13-36*

"The word [graft] occurs 6 times in Romans 11. Paul assumed that those living about Rome were familiar with the process of grafting olive trees, for olive culture had been adopted by the Greeks and Romans in Paul's time. The wild olive trees (Arabic colloquial, zeitun berri) are cut back, slits made on the freshly sawed branch ends, and two or three grafts from a cultivated olive (Arabic colloquial, zeitun jouwi) are inserted in such a way that the bark of the scion and of the branch coincide. The exposed ends are smeared with mud made from clay, and then bound with cloth or date straw, which is held by thongs made from the bark of young mulberry branches. The fruit thus obtained is good. Wild olives cannot be made cultivated olives by engrafting, as Paul implies (Romans 11:24), but a wild olive branch thus grafted would thrive. So Gentiles would flourish spiritually when grafted into the fullness of God's mercy, first revealed to the world through Israel." James A. Patch

- I. As we study the Scriptures, we have come to understand that we are in an historical period where God has put his full attention on drawing non-Jews to Christ. That is not to say that there aren't Jews getting saved (Messianic Jews), but God's full attention has been on saving Gentiles for the last several thousand years of redemptive history.

Rom. 11:13-22

- A. At some point in near future, after the church is raptured, there will be a national resurrection of Israel from spiritual deadness. Their deadness will be replaced with an outpouring of God's grace and mercy to bring the whole nation to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as the true Messiah, Maranatha!

Rom. 11:15

Matt. 21:18-19

Matt. 12:43

Jer. 11:16-17

Zech. 14:20-21

- B. Because of Israel's unbelief, elect Gentiles (wild olive branches) have been grafted into the kingdom of God to be spiritually nourished by God's covenant promises to Abraham, which guarantees eternal life to all who believe. This privilege of being set apart for God must be treated with humility and commitment, because we do not deserve in any way the riches we've been given.

Rom. 11:16-22

Titus 2:11-12

Heb. 12:14

Zech. 14:20-21

Num. 15:17-21

Gal. 3:28

***Eph. 2:11-14** Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)—remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.*

- II. Luke 21:24 tells us that "Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the time of the Gentiles are fulfilled." This mystery of Israel being re-grafted back into what was promised to the Jewish nation through Abraham, has been revealed to us so that we don't become conceited and anti-Semitic in our thinking. His gifts and his call will never be taken from his covenant people Israel, and his gifts and his call will never be taken from those of us who have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Rom. 11:23-36

Ezek. 37:10-14

Eph. 2:4-5

"Even today, there are those who advocate supersessionism or replacement theology, which holds that the Church has completely replaced Israel and will inherit the promises to be fulfilled only in a spiritual sense. In other words, according to this view, ethnic Israel is forever excluded from the promises—the Jews will not literally inherit the Promised Land. What then would happen to Israel?" gotquestions.org