Romans 11:13-24

# 2017 Theme Intro Grafted In

Jan. 8/'17

"I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches. If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in." Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. For if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you either. Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in His kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off. And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. After all, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!" - Romans 11:13-24

### Our Theme Last Year: Discover Jesus: A Journey Through Luke

Reminders:

#### Our Theme for 2016: Building On God's Foundation — Appreciating Our Jewish Roots

#### Sermon Series this Year:

- January Impressed Upon Your Hearts (Deuteronomy 6)
- February Prophecies of the Messiah
- April God's Spring Feast Days
- April May Jesus is Greater Than... (Hebrews)
- Summer Unchained! Freedom in Christ (Galatians)
- September God's Fall Feast Days
- Oct. Nov. The Tent of Meeting (The Tabernacle)

## The Purpose for This Theme:

- 1. To understand our heritage as Christians.
- 2. To appreciate the Old Testament and the laws, holidays and structures that God gave His people.
- 3. To blend the richness and prophecy of the Old Testament with the beauty and fulfillment of the New Testament.

## Why Does Paul Speak to the Gentiles? (Romans 11:13-15)

- 1. It is his calling from God. [Romans 11:13]
- 2. To arouse the Jews to envy and draw them to Jesus. [Romans 11:14]
- 3. To see the world changed through the Jews and through their acceptance of their Messiah. [Romans 11:15]

## **The Transition** - (v. 16)

- If the source is holy, the remainder is holy as well.
- The Firstfruits [Exodus 34:26]

## The Grafting (vs. 17-21)

- The Olive Tree throughout Scripture is Israel. [Jeremiah 11:16]
- The Root is God (or Messiah). [Isaiah 11:10, Rev. 22:16]
- Some branches have been broken off. (Unbelieving Jews) [v. 17]
- Some branches have been grafted in and are now receiving all of the "nutrients" (or blessings) of the tree. [v. 17b]
  - If you are a Gentile who has been grafted in (a Christian)...
  - Don't boast. It wasn't your goodness that got you there.
  - The other branches were broken off because of unbelief.
  - If you fail to believe you could be cut off, too!

## The Kindness and Sternness of God (vs. 22-23)

- Jews: Some have been cut off but could be grafted in again.
- Gentiles: Some have been grafted in but could be cut off!

## The Love of God (v. 24)

- The Gentiles are "wild" branches.
- "*Contrary to nature*" A farmer would always take a wild olive stump and graft domesticated branches into it. It was the best of both worlds.
- God loves us so much that He has taken a domesticated olive stump (Israel) and grafted wild branches (Gentiles) into it.
- God loves His chosen people so much that they will someday be grafted in again and will produce great fruit.

## What We Should Know...

Romans 11:13-24

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