## The Root

"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit."

### - Isaiah 11:1

### The Amazing Olive Tree

- It is one of the oldest cultivated trees in the world (7,000 years).
- It is the most cited tree in literature.
- It is a symbol of abundance and hope!

"Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table."

- Psalm 128:4

"...his young shoots will grow. His splendour will be like an olive tree, his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon."



- It is used in many ways (leaf, fruit, oil, wood).
- It was one of the promises of the Promised Land.

"So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant." - Joshua 24:15

• It is important in Scriptures.

(Noah and the olive branch; olive wood in the temple; olive oil in the lamps; prophecy; Gethsemane; Mt. of Olives; the picture of Christians; Book of Revelation. 87X)

- It is extremely hardy (drought, disease and fire resistant)!
- It lives to incredible ages.
- Even if cut down to the ground, it remains alive and new shoots can sprout from it.

### The Root (or Stump) of Isaiah 11

• This root represents Israel.

"The LORD called you a thriving olive tree with fruit beautiful in form. But with the roar of a mighty storm He will set it on fire, and its branches will be broken." - Jeremiah 11:16

• This root represents the kingly line of Jesse (David's line).

"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse..."

- Isaiah 11:1

• This root is the story of Israel being "cut off" and yet still having a promise.

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- Isaiah 11:1

• But most importantly, this Root is a picture of a person.

#### Who is the Root?

- 1. He is a banner for his people a rallying point and a place of rest.

  "In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His place of rest will be glorious."

   Isaiah 11:10
- 2. He is a man.

"He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him." - Isaiah 53:2

3. He is a king and a hope for Gentiles.

"Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the **Gentiles will hope in Him**." - Romans 15:12

4. He is victorious!

"Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed." - Revelation 5:5

5. He is Jesus!

"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star." - Revelation 22:16

#### Therefore...

- 1. I know that Jesus is my banner and my rest. (Jehovah Nissi)
  - "Moses built an altar and called it The LORD is my Banner." Exodus 17:15

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

- Matthew 11:28

2. I know that He was a man and understands my situation. - Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin."

3. I know that He is my king and, as a Gentile, I am welcomed!

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

- John 18:37

"To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." - Colossians 1:27

4. I know that He has won the victory for me. -1 Corinthians 15:57 "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

# My Challenge to You...

This Christmas, don't miss Him!

"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." - Luke 2:30-32

A Quick Question: Have you "missed Him" in past Christmases? What caused it and what can you do to make it sure it doesn't happen again?

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# **The Root**

#### The Lessons We Learn

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1. Jesus is my banner and my rest. (Jehovah Nissi)

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### Consider and Discuss the Following:

- 1. Re-read the question above. How did you answer it during the message? How would you answer it now?
- 2. Which of the Lessons above are most meaningful to you and why?
- 3. What did you learn about the ROOT that will help you celebrate Christmas this year?

# For Further Discussion The Root

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