

That is only for the Jews!

It does not apply to the Christians or **THE CHURCH!**

At the very heart and core of this statement is the belief that God Created a **NEW RELIGION** for the Gentiles. One that is different than the one He created for the Jews, or more accurately for the Israelites. At the center of this belief is that the Church and Christianity have now replaced the Jews and Judaism, as the focus of God's interaction with mankind. Commonly this belief is referred to as Replacement Theology.

When one looks in the New Testament, instead of Replacement Theology, we find something else. We see that Paul addresses this concept, by using the analogy of two Olive Trees, one wild and one cultivated. The **WILD OLIVE TREE** represents the Gentiles and the **CULTIVATED OLIVE TREE** represents the Children of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Romans 11:17-24 (NASB)

(17) But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree,

(18) do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who support the root, but the root supports you.

(19) You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in."

(20) Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but **fear**; (*be afraid!*)

(21) for if God did not spare the natural branches, **neither will He spare you.**

(22) Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise **you** also **will be cut off.**

(23) And they also, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in; for God is able to graft them in again.

(24) For if you were cut off from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more shall these who are the natural branches be grafted into their own olive tree?

Notice: that in verse 17 it says "**if some of the branches were broken off**". It does not say that **all** of the branches were broken off! Notice also, it does not even say most, but **only some**. Yet even those, which had been broken off after going into non-observant Judaism, paganism (or had just become secular agnostics), or any other type of enticing religions, if and when they repent and return to God, they can, and will be brought back into belief and regain their rightful place.

A fact that passes right over the heads of most individuals is that Paul is **not** talking to people who have become converts to some **NEW THEOLOGICAL ENTITY**, called **THE CHURCH**. He is talking to Gentiles who have converted (or at least were in the process of converting) to the original form Pre-Talmudic Messianic Judaism. The problem, which he is addressing, is that some of the Gentiles were acting as though they should, or had, become a **NEW** and **SEPARATE RELIGION**. Paul is declaring to the Gentiles, that they **cannot** be a **SEPARATE RELIGION** and **still be a TRUE follower of Yeshua** (Jesus, whose original name in Hebrew, means "Salvation of God"). One needs to remember Jesus (Yeshua) was Jewish, He preached mainstream Pre-Talmudic Jewish theology and was called, in the New Testament, "**Rabbi**". Jesus (Yeshua) was **not** developing a **NEW GENTILE RELIGION**. Yeshua (Jesus) told the woman at the well: "**...salvation is of the Jews**". So it appears that Paul is telling them (the Gentiles), if they try to separate themselves from God's **CULTIVATED OLIVE TREE**, that they will be broken off. Once broken off they will be separate and disassociated from the **DOMESTIC OLIVE TREE**, the source from which they had received their **THEOLOGICAL NOURISHMENT, SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**.

One can only wonder whether or not the passage of Scripture in Isaiah 65:1-4 was intended either in part or in total, to apply to the future **GENTILE CHURCH**, with its Replacement Theology?

Isaiah 65:1-3, 4-7 (NASB)

- (1) **"I PERMITTED** Myself to be sought by those who did not ask for Me;
I permitted Myself to be found by those who did not seek Me.
I said, 'Here am I, here am I,'
To a nation which did not call on My NAME."
- (2) "I have spread out My hands all day long to a rebellious people,
Who walk in the way which is not good, following their own thoughts,
- (3) A people who continually provoke Me to My FACE,...
- (4) ... Who eat swine's flesh,
And the broth of unclean meat is in their pots."
- (5) "Who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me,
For I am holier than you!'
These are smoke in My nostrils,
A fire that burns all the day."
- (6) "Behold, it is written before Me,
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will even repay into their bosom,
- (7) Both their own iniquities and the iniquities of their fathers together,"
Says the LORD...

Contrast that with the **RIGHTEOUS REMNANT** of the tribes of Israel, which The Almighty has kept for Himself over the centuries. They are the ones who made up the roots and trunk of the **CULTIVATED OLIVE TREE**. What about them!

What about all of the observant Jews who, both they and their ancestors **did ask** for God?

What about all of those who, both they and their ancestors **did seek** for God?

What about the Remnant of their Nation which continually **did call** on His NAME?

What about the Jews who **did seek** with all their heart, to keep the Commandments of God,

Those who **do not eat** swine's flesh,

And **refuse** to have the broth of **ANY unclean meat** in their pots?

How many of those in the Church, who also hold to the Replacement Theology, eat swine's flesh (Pork, Ham, Bacon, Sausage and so on) and have the broth of unclean meat in their pots (Cat Fish, Lobster, Shrimp, Crab, Clam Chowder, etc.)? Could it be possible, that they are some of the people who God has said are **continually provoking Him to His FACE?**

So, on the other hand, when it comes to the Jewish and Israelite Remnant, the Righteous ones, who would never eat such things; how are they viewed by most of the Church today? A Church who has, for the most part, made their Christian Church into a Separate *free*-Standing Religion! How do most of these Church members react toward the Remnant? Of course, most of these Christians would never say to a Jewish individual, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, **For I am holier than you!**' I'm the one who's going to be *Raptured!* Naaaaa, they surly would not think or say anything like that; now would they?

What was it that Scripture said, that **He** (God) was going to do with both the Righteous and Unrighteous descendents of Abraham Isaac and Jacob?

Isaiah 11:12-13 (NASB)

(12) And **He** (God) will lift up a standard for the nations,
And will assemble the banished ones of **Israel**,
And will gather the dispersed of **Judah**
From the four corners of the earth.
(13) Then the jealousy of **Ephraim** will depart,
And those who harass **Judah** will be cut off;
Ephraim will not be jealous of **Judah**,
And **Judah** will not harass **Ephraim**.

Is it possible, that this passage of Scripture is referring to those who have come from the *four corners* of the earth to populate the modern day state of Israel?

Or is there to be another fulfillment?

If Israel has not been removed from history or from their Biblical blessings,
then where does that leave THE CHURCH?

How then can THE CHURCH fully access the Blessings of God, promised to Israel?

To do so, wouldn't THE CHURCH still need to be a part of THE DOMESTIC OLIVE TREE?

Perhaps THE TRUE CHURCH might still need to be grafted into, and be a part of, Judaism?

Not allowing its branch, originally being from the Wild Olive, to be broken or cut off!

NO longer seeking to sprout its own roots, to make itself a Separate and Distanced Religion!

If this is truly, what effect will this have on the Gentiles who truly want to serve God?

“Thus says the LORD of host,
‘In those days **TEN MEN** from all the nations will grasp
the garment of a Jew and say, “Let us go with you,
for we have heard that God is with you.”

Zechariah 8:22-23 (NASB)

The obvious question is: in what manner are these Gentiles (who are seeking God) grasping the garment of a Jew? Are they, or are they not, grasping this garment (a Tallit, or Prayer Shawl) just to tag along and follow them? Or are they grasping hold of the Tallit (Prayer-Shawl, Prayer-Cloth or Mantel) for the purpose of learning to use it in the same manner as observant Jews have for thousands of years, and still do today?

Such questions will, for some individuals, have the effect of inspiring them to develop a whole **NEW** degree of interest in this and related aspects of early Christianity. Hopefully, this may also encourage a more in-depth study of what has been known historically as Judaic-Christianity (Judaic-Christianity). Today in the United States Judaic-Christianity is more commonly known as either Messianic-Judaism or Messianic-Christianity.

Remember what Jesus said to the woman at the well.

“You worship that which you do not know;
we ^(Jews) worship that which we ^(Jews) know,
for salvation is of the Jews!”

John 4:22 (NASB)

So, whether you think all of this is so, or not.

Remember: either way,

GOD WILL BE THE ONE,

WHO HAS THE FINAL SAY!