

Notes: May 30 2015

Start: 10 AM

### Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: Roots

Within Messianic Judaism there is much reference to roots. Jewish Roots, Hebrew Roots, the Roots of our faith, etc...

There has been this increased pursuit of seeking to know and understand the roots of our faith. More so now than at any time in the past. With the establishment of the internet, it is easier now than ever to find anything you are looking for.

Scriptures also reference roots in various passages that allude to something more, which is what we will be looking at to day in greater detail.

Roots are extremely significant. To understand the botanical basis of roots will only provide greater understanding to the scriptural references where roots.

In that Adonai is the creator of all things, including the creation of trees:

**Gen 1:11** God said, "Let the earth put forth grass, seed-producing plants, and fruit trees, each yielding its own kind of seed-bearing fruit, on the earth"; and that is how it was.

**Gen 1:12** The earth brought forth grass, plants each yielding its own kind of seed, and trees each producing its own kind of seed-bearing fruit; and God saw that it was good.

**Gen 1:13** So there was evening, and there was morning, a third day.

So, what can we learn from the roots that were part of the creation of seed producing plants and fruit trees:

There are four primary functions of a root system:

1. Absorption of water and inorganic nutrients (minerals) (vs. organic nutrients that contain carbon)
2. Anchoring the plant to the ground and supporting it
3. Storage of food, carbohydrates and nutrients in reserve for future use
4. Vegetative reproduction, Produce hormones that control plant functions

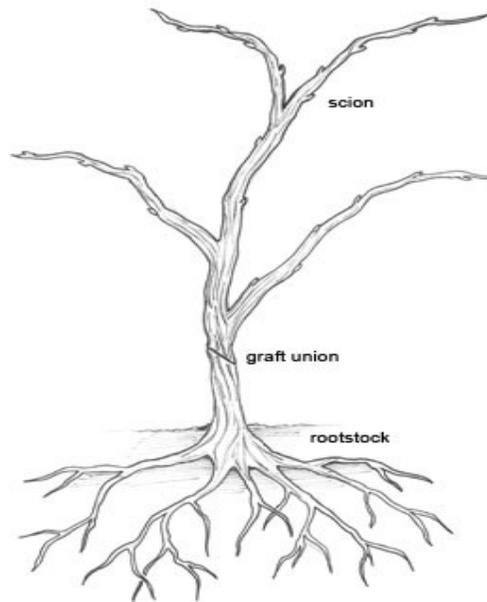
What you don't see on the surface is an enormous system that feeds, anchors and reproduces. The very existence and survival of the tree relies primarily on the roots.



While a tree is more stationary, a woody perennial plant, typically having a single stem or trunk growing to a considerable height and bearing lateral branches at some distance from the ground -

a vine is a climbing or trailing woody-stemmed plant such as a grapevine.

Looking at a grapevine:



Grapevines can be grown on their own root systems or they may be grafted onto a rootstock. A grafted vine consists of two parts, the scion variety, which produces the above-ground parts (trunk, shoots, and fruit), and the rootstock, which provides the root system and lower part of the trunk.

The position on the trunk where the scion and rootstock are joined by [grafting](#) grows together and is called the graft union. Successful healing of the graft union requires that the vascular [cambium](#) of both the rootstock and scion are in contact with each other, since these are the only tissues having [meristematic](#) activity necessary for the production of new cells to complete the graft union.

Healing of the graft union often results in the production of abundant [callus](#) tissue (a wound healing tissue composed of large thin-walled cells that develop in response to injury), often making the area somewhat larger than adjacent parts of the trunk. Because rootstock and scion varieties may grow at different rates, trunk diameter can vary above and below the graft union.

<http://www.extension.org/pages/31099/parts-of-the-grape-vine:-roots#.VWmL5EY3lz8>

There is the example whereby Israel is the cultivated olive tree and the nations are wild olive trees.

So when we look at such a passage as Romans 11:16 – 18, when we understand the purpose of the roots in relation to the entire plant, we will be able to better understand the metaphor Sha'ul is alluding to:

**Rom 11:16** Now if the hallah offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole loaf. And if the root is holy, so are the branches.

Who is the root?

Why does the root make the branches holy?

**Rom 11:17** But if some of the branches were broken off, and you — a wild olive — were grafted in among them and have become equal sharers in the rich root of the olive tree,

What / Who makes the wild olive branches holy?

**Rom 11:18** then don't boast as if you were better than the branches! However, if you do boast, remember that you are not supporting the root, the root is supporting you.

What is the warning here?

A wild olive, were grafted in among them, among the branches which are still part of the tree, the Messianic Jews, the Jewish nation as represented by its Messianic Jewish community, and have become equal sharers in the rich root of God's cultivated olive tree...

Then don't boast as if you were better than the natural branches, neither the ones still in place (the Messianic Jews) nor the ones broken off (the non-Messianic Jews).

Gentile pride in having been joined to the "chosen people" is utterly out of place, particularly when directed against those very people!

As Sha'ul writes to the Corinthians:

**1Co 4:7** After all, what makes you so special? What do you have that you didn't receive as a gift? And if in fact it was a gift, why do you boast as if it weren't?

To make Sha'ul's point as clear as it can be:

Whether the root is Yeshua, Avraham, the Patriarchs, the Messianic Jews or all the Jews, it is a Jewish root, and don't you forget it!

The Jewish community sometimes draws a picture of the Jew who comes to faith in Yeshua as someone doubly unwelcome, rejected both by other Jews and by the Gentile majority in the Church as well.

It's easy enough to understand why a Messianic Jew might be rejected by some in the Jewish community, but why did the image of his being rejected by the Church even arise?

It came from Gentile Christians who forgot Sha'ul's warning and regarded the Jewish believer in their midst not as a natural branch of the olive tree into which they were grafted, but as an alien.

Have you ever been a stranger in your own home?

This is what it is like.

To further expand upon this overall premise...Yeshua conveys a similar metaphor in relation to Him being the vine...

**Joh 15:5** "I am the vine and you are the branches. Those who stay united with me, and I with them, are the ones who bear much fruit; because apart from me you can't do a thing.

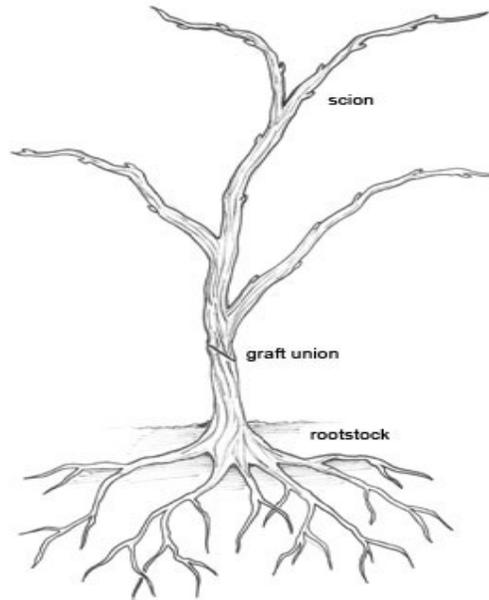
**Joh 15:6** Unless a person remains united with me, he is thrown away like a branch and dries up. Such branches are gathered and thrown into the fire, where they are burned up.

**Joh 15:7** "If you remain united with me, and my words with you, then ask whatever you want, and it will happen for you.

Twice Yeshua emphasizes being united with Him...

Whether they are the natural branches or the wild branches, the emphasis is on being united to the vine, which is connected to the root.

You can't get to the root, except through the vine...sound familiar?



**Joh 14:6** Yeshua said, "I AM the Way — and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through me.

We are the branches  
Yeshua is the Vine  
Adonai is the Root

The branches don't have access to the root, except through the vine.

And what do the roots do?

- Absorption of water and inorganic nutrients (vs. organic nutrients that contain carbon)
- Anchoring the plant to the ground and supporting it

- Storage of food, carbohydrates and nutrients in reserve for future use
- Vegetative reproduction, Produce hormones that control plant functions

**Joh 15:8** This is how my Father is glorified — in your bearing much fruit; this is how you will prove to be my talmidim.

Ultimately, if you stay in Him, God will be glorified, you will produce much fruit and validate you are one of His talmidim.

**Joh 15:9** "Just as my Father has loved me, I too have loved you; so stay in my love.

And what keeps the roots rooted?

**Joh 15:10** If you keep my commands, you will stay in my love — just as I have kept my Father's commands and stay in his love.

The vine is an extension of the root system, yet still conveys the same dynamic.

The root draws its nutrients from the soil. So if you are good soil you should be as Matthew 13:23:

**Mat 13:23** However, what was sown on rich soil is the one who hears the message and understands it; such a person will surely bear fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty times what was sown."

The contrary is true that if you have a “weed” in good soil, it too will flourish to the point where it will over take that which is planted...

**Mat 13:7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.

If you ever try getting rid of weeds, you need to get rid of the entire weed, root and all, or else it will grow back, only to have to pull it again. Repeating your efforts, having not accomplished your desired result...a weed free garden.

If the roots don't grow deep into the soil, then you will experience...

**Mat 13:6** but when the sun had risen, the young plants were scorched; and since their roots were not deep, they dried up.

However, if you one of the other soils to where the roots either don't take root or are malnourished

**Mat 3:10** Already the axe is at the root of the trees, ready to strike; every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown in the fire!

It is at the root of the tree that the axe falls, severing the entire tree from the root.

Yet there is enormous potential in the root, even without the tree.

September 21<sup>st</sup> 1989 – Hurricane Hugo struck land and within 6 hours had hit the Lake Wylie, SC area at 70 miles / hour.

The next day we went out to assess the damage. We had several trees struck down, including one that was the casualty of a tree that fell upon it, splitting it in two. Several days later as we were having the trees removed, we had them cut down to the stump this split tree.

In the spring (1990) the tree that was cut down to the stump had a shoot growing out of the stump. We continued to watch in amazement the progress of this shoot as it progressed into what you might call a sapling. To where I asked my

mother what she wanted to do.

“If this tree has the strength to come back, I am certainly not going to cut it down.”

This root still had life in it. It produced another tree that grew taller and stronger. Within 5 years the trunk of the new tree was equal to the size of its predecessor.

The tree may have been gone, but the roots were alive and well, full of nutrients and able to produce the seed that would bring forth more fruit.

It is the root that is the source of our enrichment, So, when you consider Psalm 80...

**Psa 80:8** You brought a vine out of Egypt, you expelled the nations and planted it,  
**Psa 80:9** you cleared a space for it; then it took root firmly and filled the land.

Or Isaiah 27:6...

**Isa 27:6** The time is coming when Ya`akov will take root; Isra'el will bud and flower, and fill the whole world with a harvest.

When we look at the root in relation to Israel it is found through Yeshua and is 100% Jewish and of Adonai.

**Rev 22:16** "I, Yeshua, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the Messianic communities. I am the Root and Offspring of David, the bright Morning Star.

We know this because that which Adonai puts His name on, is made holy because His Name is holy – set apart, sanctified.

In the case of Revelation 22:16, Yeshua is both the Root and the Offspring of David.

King David sprang from this Root, because Yeshua pre-existed David (**Mic 5:1 (Mic 5:2)**, **Joh 8:58**), and through Yeshua everything, including David's ancestor Adam, was made (**Joh 1:1-2, Joh 1:14**).

But Yeshua is also David's offspring; in particular, he is the promised Son of David who would be the Messiah. Yeshua's Davidic ancestry is referred to throughout the New Covenant writings. **Mat 1:6, Mat 9:27, Mat 15:22, Mat 21:9; Luk 1:32, Luk 2:4, Luk 3:31; Rom 1:3; 2Ti 2:8**. In Revelation the term "Root of David" is found

**The Root of David.** This draws on **Isa 11:1-10**, which commences with,

**Isa 11:10** On that day the root of Yishai, which stands as a banner for the peoples — the Goyim will seek him out, and the place where he rests will be glorious.

This description of the Messiah is followed by details about his rule (compare **Isa 9:5-6 (Isa 9:6-7)**) and the Messianic Age of peace which he establishes. Of particular interest are the two verses which follow, where there is an astonishingly clear prophecy of the present and future ingathering of the Jewish people:

**Isa 11:11** On that day Adonai will raise his hand again, a second time, to reclaim the remnant of his people who remain from Ashur, Egypt, Patros, Ethiopia, `Eilam, Shin`ar, Hamat and the islands in the sea.

**Isa 11:12** He will hoist a banner for the Goyim, assemble the dispersed of Isra'el, and gather the scattered of Y'hudah from the four corners of the earth.

So, boasting against the root is in essence boasting against God.

The root is the source by which everything originates.

Be careful what you say and how you say it. But also, should you hear others, offer them some friendly insight regarding the perspective and context of the Scriptures.