

Notes: March 19 2016

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: Can You Be Only Partially Grafted In?

Sha'ul in his letter to Roman believers, both Jew and Gentile conveys God's reality regarding the dynamic of His Kingdom.

That being that it comprises Jew and Gentile. Why else would Yeshua said that God so loved the world...

It is this dynamic that we should be exploring further.

How can you call yourself a believer and therefore follower in Yeshua, and not have a heart for Israel and the Jewish people?

The BDS movement... (source: Wikipedia)

The **Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement (BDS Movement)** is a global campaign attempting to increase economic and political pressure on Israel to comply with the stated goals of the movement: the end of [Israel's occupation](#) and [colonization](#) of [Palestinian land](#) and the [Golan Heights](#), full equality for [Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel](#), and respect for the [right of return of Palestinian refugees](#).

The campaign is organized and coordinated by the Palestinian BDS National Committee. The campaign was started on 9 July 2005 by 171 Palestinian [non-governmental organizations](#) in support of the [Palestinian cause](#) for [boycott](#), [divestment](#) and [international sanctions](#) against Israel. Citing a body of [UN resolutions](#) and specifically echoing the anti-apartheid campaigns against white [minority rule](#) in [apartheid era South Africa](#), the BDS campaign called for "various forms of boycott against Israel until it meets its obligations under [international law](#)".

Its goals are:

1. Ending its [occupation](#) and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the [Wall](#);
2. Recognizing the fundamental rights of the [Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel](#) to full equality; and
3. Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of [Palestinian refugees](#) to [return to their homes and properties](#) as stipulated in [UN Resolution 194](#).<sup>[26]</sup>

What once started as a Palestinian effort is now festering itself in several church denominations:

- Presbyterian Church – USA
- United Church In Christ
- United Methodist Church
- Worldwide Council of Churches:

Worldwide Council of Church members today include the [Anglican Communion](#), the [Assyrian Church of the East](#), almost all jurisdictions of the [Eastern Orthodox Church](#), the [Old Catholic Church](#), the [Oriental Orthodox Churches](#), most mainline [Protestant](#) churches (such as the [Lutheran](#), [Mennonite](#), [Methodist](#), [Moravian](#) and [Reformed](#)) and some [evangelical](#) Protestant churches (such as the [Baptist](#) and [Pentecostal](#)).<sup>[1]</sup> Notably, the [Roman Catholic Church](#) is not a member, although it sends accredited observers to meetings.

This effort appears to be growing, and will likely continue to grow.

Yet these all comprise people who have accepted Yeshua and therefore have been grafted into the olive tree as conveyed by Sha'ul in Romans 11:

**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,

**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.

Have some left as a result of adopting the BDS resolution? I believe so. Unfortunately, many have remained and are in agreement with this viewpoint.

Two weeks ago I talked about a Post-Christian culture in America whereby on average 44% qualify as being Post-Christian through identifying with 9 out of the 15 characteristics outlined in the 2013 Pew Research study.

Now we are looking at something even more alarming, that being churches, comprising believers in Yeshua who have come to accept the narrative of Israeli occupation of the land, thus ignoring the very Scriptures that are foundational to their belief.

This is a very dangerous position for any believer to be in. Consider again Sha'ul's words...

**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.

To Boast - talk with excessive pride and self-satisfaction about one's achievements, possessions, or abilities.

This includes total disregard for Adonai's relationship with Israel and the promises that He has made to them, which are irrevocable.

By questioning or not accepting parts of Scripture opens the door to questioning all Scripture to where we will ultimately end up accepting lies, such as first began in Genesis:

**Gen 3:1** Now the serpent was more crafty than any wild animal which Adonai, God, had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You are not to eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Sha'ul's response is...

**Rom 11:20** True, but so what? They were broken off because of their lack of trust. However, you keep your place only because of your trust. So don't be arrogant; on the contrary, be terrified!

**Rom 11:21** For if God did not spare the natural branches, he certainly won't spare you!

**Rom 11:22** So take a good look at God's kindness and his severity: on the one hand, severity toward those who fell off; but, on the other hand, God's kindness toward you — provided you maintain yourself in that kindness! Otherwise, you too will be cut off!

**Rom 11:23** Moreover, the others, if they do not persist in their lack of trust, will be grafted in; because God is able to graft them back in.

Conversely, the only condition non-Messianic Jews must meet in order to become sharers in the promises God made them is **not to persist in their lack of trust**. Then they **will** most certainly **be grafted in; because God is able to graft them back in**. This means that God can keep his promises, which is specifically the issue behind chapters 9-11 (see Rom. 9:1-Rom. 11:36).

God's ability to graft them back in is proved by another *kal v'chomer* argument (see [Mat 6:30](#)), that if **you** Gentiles **were cut out of what is by nature a wild olive tree**, a nation of pagans separated from God's promises ([Eph 2:11-12](#)), and were **grafted, contrary to nature**, that is, contrary to normal agricultural practice, contrary to what makes economic sense, **into a cultivated olive tree**, the Jewish people, enabling God's "foolishness" ([1Co 1:17-31](#)) to highlight his sovereign control over his purposes ([Rom 9:6-29](#)); then (the climax of the argument), **how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree!**

How much easier it will be to bring an understanding of spiritual truth to those who belong to the people God has been dealing with for thousands of years than to those who do not!

The analogy does not apply to every single Jew over against every single Gentile-especially today, when some Jews are raised without any Jewish identification, while many Gentiles, particularly those raised in Christian homes, have been exposed to spiritual truth as much as or more than many Jews.

But, leaving modern exceptions aside, it ought to be easier for a Jew to believe in Yeshua as the Messiah than for a Gentile (and this would certainly have been so when Sha'ul wrote), since "Messiah" is a concept which is part of Jewish culture, whereas a Gentile has to be introduced to an idea alien to his culture (see [Act 11:20-23](#).) Furthermore, a Jew, as a member of the Jewish people, has the advantages enumerated at 9:4-5.

This is why a "Jews for Jesus" broadside says, in a lighthearted vein, "You don't have to be Jewish to believe in Jesus-but it helps!"

Yet this continuing and troubling trend away from Scripture as our foundation should cause you to pause and take a much deeper look at where you are.

Many things from the wild olive tree have infiltrated those branches that have been grafted into the natural olive tree, which begs to ask the question...

Are you fully and completely 100% grafted into the natural olive tree or are you only partially grafted in?

Sha'ul conveys that the root is supporting you,

**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.

Yet the root cannot produce what it does not already have within it. Likewise the branch can only produce what it receives from the root. It cannot produce its own, unique fruit that is contrary from what it is receiving from the root.

So what does it mean to be partially grafted?

It could mean a few things.

1. Adopting into God's ways, ways that are contrary to God's ways.

Changing Shabbat, establishing days to honor Him yet ignoring the days He has already established.

2. Denying who Israel and the Jewish people are in relation to God's plan, not your understanding or a theology that superimposes another narrative.

**Rom 15:27** They were pleased to do it, but the fact is that they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared with the Jews in spiritual matters, then the Gentiles clearly have a duty to help the Jews in material matters.

3. Not fully accepting all that God has laid out and embracing the position He has made for you.

Not everyone can sit at the right hand...

**Mat 20:20** Then Zavdai's sons came to Yeshua with their mother. She bowed down, begging a favor from him.

**Mat 20:21** He said to her, "What do you want?" She replied, "Promise that when you become king, these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right and the other on your left."

**Mat 20:22** But Yeshua answered, "You people don't know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to him, "We can."

**Mat 20:23** He said to them, "Yes, you will drink my cup. But to sit on my right and on my left is not mine to give, it is for those for whom my Father has prepared it."

This doesn't mean that you are not a believer, but it means you are potentially in a dangerous position. You are not securely grafted in, but only partially grafted in to where you can easily be cut off because...

1. You are not fully secure in your position as being part of the natural olive tree. In essence you only have part of your branch attached, while the remaining part isn't. This is the equivalent of a house divided, with one foot embracing the ways of the world and one foot embracing the ways of God, yet neither is fully committed.
2. You are not being fully nourished by the root, therefore you are not producing the fruit you should be producing.

**Gal 5:22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

**Gal 5:23** humility, self control. Nothing in the Torah stands against such things.

**Gal 5:24** Moreover, those who belong to the Messiah Yeshua have put their old nature to death on the stake, along with its passions and desires.

**Gal 5:25** Since it is through the Spirit that we have Life, let it also be through the Spirit that we order our lives day by day.

Justification of our ways when they don't align with Scripture is a dangerous thing. Sha'ul conveys the Ruach ha Kodesh orders our lives. The Ruach will not order your ways that are contrary to Scripture. Any notion otherwise is a lie.

**Gal 5:26** Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

So, when we look at this dynamic of becoming part of a Covenant Adonai makes, we have Scripture to guide us...

**Exo 34:10** He said, "Here, I am making a covenant; in front of all your people I will do wonders such as have not been created anywhere on earth or in any nation. All the people around you will see the work of Adonai. What I am going to do through you will be awesome!

**Jer 31:31 (31:30)** "Here, the days are coming," says Adonai, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'udah.

The Covenants originate with Israel and flow through the Jewish people.

**Exo 34:11** Observe what I am ordering you to do today. Here! I am driving out ahead of you the Emori, Kena`ani, Hitti, P'rizi, Hivi and Y'vusi.

**Exo 34:12** Be careful not to make a covenant with the people living in the land where you are going, so that they won't become a snare within your own borders.

We are not to modify the Covenant or adapt it around other people. Its primary foundation is set.

**Exo 34:13** Rather, you are to demolish their altars, smash their standing-stones and cut down their sacred poles;

**Exo 34:14** because you are not to bow down to any other god; since Adonai — whose very name is Jealous — is a jealous God.

**Exo 34:15** Do not make a covenant with the people living in the land. It will cause you to go astray after their gods and sacrifice to their gods. Then they will invite you to join them in eating their sacrifices,

**Exo 34:16** and you will take their daughters as wives for your sons. Their daughters will prostitute themselves to their own gods and make your sons do the same!

There is no middle ground. There is no fence to sit on.

You are either all in or you are not.

Adonai knows your heart but do you know your own heart.