~GRAFTING (101)

- The process of joining the scion, shoot, twig, of a tree known to produce good fruit with the stock of another tree bearing inferior fruit so as to bring about a permanent union.
- Often grafting is done with a view to combining the advantageous characteristics of both scion, its good fruit, and stock, its vigor and strength. After grafted-in branches are established, though deriving nourishment from a different stock, they will produce the same kind of fruit as the tree from which they were taken.
- The apostle Paul, writing to Christians in Rome, compared non-Jewish Christians to the branches of a wild olive that were grafted into the garden olive to replace natural branches that had been broken off.
- Such a procedure in grafting would, of course, be contrary to nature. The natural branches corresponded to the Jews who, because of their lack of faith, lost out on their opportunity to be among those in line for Messiah's heavenly Kingdom.
- The grafting of wild olive branches, or non-Jewish Christians, into the garden olive to replace natural branches was no reason for those Gentiles to have lofty ideas, for only by faith could they maintain their position.
- · Also, the grafting of branches from the wild olive into the garden olive illustrates the permanent union that has been effected between Jews and Gentiles as fellow members of the Israel of God.
- However, if some of the branches were broken off but you, although being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became a sharer of the olives root of fatness. (Romans 11:17)
- Do not be exulting over the branches. If, though, you are exulting over them, it is not you that bear the root, but the root bears you. (Romans 11:18)
- You will say then; Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in. (Romans 11:19)
- · All right! For their lack of faith they were broken off, but you are

- standing by faith. Quit having lofty ideas, but be in fear. (Romans 11:20)
- For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. (Romans 11:21)
- See, therefore, God's kindness and severity. Toward those who fell there is severity, but toward you there is God's kindness, provided you remain in his kindness, otherwise, you also will be lopped off. (Romans 11:22)
- They also, if they do not remain in their lack of faith, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. (Romans 11:23)
- For if you were cut out of the olive tree that is wild by nature and were grafted contrary to nature into the garden olive tree, how much rather will these who are natural be grafted into their own olive tree! (Romans 11:24)
- There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor freeman, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one person in union with Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28)
- And all those who will walk orderly by this rule of conduct, upon them be peace and mercy, even upon the Israel of God. (Galatians 6:16)
- I am the true vine, and my Father is the cultivator. (John 15:1)
- Every branch in me not bearing fruit he takes away, and every one bearing fruit he cleans, that it may bear more fruit. (John 15:2)
- You are already clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. (John 15:3)
- Remain in union with me, and I in union with you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it remains in the vine, in the same way neither can you, unless you remain in union with me. (John 15:4)
- I am the vine, you are the branches. He that remains in union with me, and I in union with him, this one bears much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing at all. (John 15:5)

If anyone does not remain in union with me, he is cast out as a branch and is dried up, and men gather those branches up and pitch them into the fire and they are burned. (John 15:6)

See Also OLIVE