



The Temporary Transfer of Branches from the Place of Blessing Explained

Scripture Reading:

Romans 11:17-25



INTRODUCTION

What on Earth is happening to Israel Today?!?

As pictured by the Olive Tree in Romans 11:17, the majority of Israel has been removed from being directly exposed to God's provision of salvation.

The Fact of the Transfer of the Branches

- ◆ This transfer was fulfilled during the time of the events recorded in the Book of Acts
 - ◆ **Rom 11:17**
 - ◆ **cf Acts 28:28**

The False Boast of the Transfer

◇ Romans 11:18-20

◇ The False Boast – vs 18-19

◇ The true reason for the transfer:

◇ Unbelief by the majority of Israel and faith by a minority of Gentiles – vs 20b

◇ The four mentions of “Gentile” refers to the totality of ALL Gentiles (vs 11-15) Paul is speaking to believing Gentiles, who are a part of ALL Gentiles

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◇ Therefore, fear! Fear = hold a reverential awe of God concerning your salvation - vs 20

The Transfer of the Branches WILL be Reversed

◆ Romans 11:18-20

◆ The fact of the future reversal of branches – vs 21

◆ God's method of transfer – vs 22

◇ Romans 11:18-20 (continued)

◇ God's method of transfer – vs 22

◇ Severity upon the unbelieving branches which fell (individually, not corporately) vs 11:11 “...should not fall”

◇ Kindness upon ALL Gentiles – cf Rom 2:4

◇ This kindness conditioned by continuing response to God's kindness – vs 22c

◇ IF Israel (as a nation) stops continuing in unbelief, God is able to graft them back into this place blessing unto salvation – vs 23

◇ This is logically true! – vs 24

The Mystery of Israel's Temporary Blindness: God's Explanation for the Two-Stage Transfer to the Brethren

◇ Romans 11:25

- ◇ The reversal of the transfer AFTER the last Gentil is saved and added to the Church – cf Acts 15:14**
- ◇ Note: the “fullness of the Gentiles” is not the same as the “times of the Gentiles” – cf Lk 21:24**

CONCLUSION

- ◇ Peter explains this (temporary) blindness of the Jews to the gospel and, also, the Gentile believer's acceptance of the Gospel in I Peter 2:7-10
 - ◇ **"...The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."**