

CONNECTING THE BRANCHES WITH THE ROOT

Romans 9-11

Historical and modern thinkers would have us believe that Jesus started His new religion in 34 AD. The Scriptures teach nothing of the sort. Abraham is the Father of the Hebrews, the Living God created these Jews for His own purposes, and that purpose included delivering the written Word to man, and then, in the fullness of times - the Living Word, His Son Yeshua or "Jesus" to the world. Jesus' followers are "true Jews" and are the beneficiaries of being "grafted in" to the covenant of redemption and the promise made to Abraham.

Jesus was the "Messiah" whom the Living God had promised. According to the Scriptures, Jesus is His Son - and He is the same Jesus Who made the world! When Elohim killed animals to cover Adam and Eve's sin He set into motion a "shedding of blood" that would find its pinnacle in the spilled blood of His own willing Son. The Son would birth into the world and sinlessly give Himself for the sin of the world. He would die, raise from the dead, and take the role of High Priest - at the right hand of His Father - and cover the sins of all who believe in His Name (Hebrews 7).

To paint authentic Christianity without the roots of our Hebrew heritage is a sad error. We owe our human story to the Hebrews. The scriptures were given to and cared for by the Jews. Jesus or "Yeshua" was Hebrew. The first tens of thousands of converts following Christ were Jewish. Though the Good News has been taken to the Gentiles, for thousands of years it was protected in the cradle of Judaism. It would be a huge mistake to try to grow the branches without the root.

It is not a matter of making Gentile Christ-followers into Jews. We are not related to Abraham by blood. It is, however, hugely important to discover what a "true Jew" is - and what it means to BE one of these true Jews. Every word and letter of the Law and the Prophets and the Psalms and the Messiah and the Apostles - all give us keys to understand what it means to live by faith and not by sight. After all, Abraham (faith) precedes Moses, according to Paul and the rest of the scriptures, by 430 years (Galatians 3:17).

THE JEW & THE TRUE JEW

Romans 2

It appears that Yahweh appointed and anointed Paul to be the bridge from the Hebrew experience to the gathering of the nations at the end of the age. The Father had (and has) very special plans for His Chosen People. They are His instruments to bring His righteousness to the world. Through the Jews the written Word would be preserved, His power would be made known, and through the tribe of Judah the Messiah would come.