

AMANA TRUST BIBLE STUDIES

Lesson 17 A Grafted Life

Bible reading

Please pray over these verses.

Romans 11:17, 24

17 But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them and became a fellow partaker of the root of fatness of the olive tree.

24 For if you were cut off from what is by nature a wild olive tree and were grafted contrary to nature into the cultivated olive tree, how much more will these who are the natural branches be grafted into their own olive tree!

John 15:4

Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

Introduction

In God's selection by His mercy, the Gentiles as the wild olive tree were grafted into the cultivated olive tree to become part of His genuine chosen people. Through such a process, we are brought into an organic union in life, share one mingled living, and partake of all the riches of Christ.

Bible study reading

Please prayerfully read through the following portions of ministry related to this lesson.

What the Bible reveals as the ultimate relationship between God and us is far deeper than that of Creator and creature. The nature of this relationship is beyond human concept. It is that God and we may have a union in life. The divine life and the human life join together to become one life. (*Life Messages*, vol. 2, ch. 58, section 1)

In order to describe one living with two lives, Paul uses the illustration of grafting (Rom. 11:24; 6:5). The uncultivated branch has been cut off from the uncultivated tree, and this uncultivated branch is grafted into the cultivated tree, the good tree...These two now become one, yet the branch is still the branch, and the tree is still the tree. They are two things, yet they live together. The branch and the tree live, but the two live together as one. The living of the branch and the tree is a mingled living. (*The Experience and Growth in Life*, ch. 3, section 1)

We are divinely human and humanly divine. Our life has been grafted into God. He is working Himself into us organically.

John 15 clearly pictures this organic relationship. The vine and the branches are not united by a carpenter's hammer. The branches are not like dentures artificially held in place. We are the branches of God, organically one with Him. We are part of God, just as my arm is part of me. Some may say that this is heretical teaching; such ones are in darkness. If we are in the light, we will see and rejoice that as the branches of Christ, we are part of Him organically; we are organically joined to God. This is His economy. (*Life Messages*, vol. 2, ch. 51, section 1)

Once we are thus grafted into Him, His resurrection life comes into us and removes all the negative elements within. His life becomes ours in resurrection. He uplifts the original functions given to us at creation, and enriches, strengthens, and even saturates our whole being. This new life is a life of two lives grafted into one. In this union are victory, life, light, power, and all the other divine attributes. All these are ours by virtue of being grafted into Him. In this grafting we grow together with Him. Then in resurrection His life grows in us. The divine life is in us, supplying us. This is the Christian life. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament*, msg. 299, section 4)

Going deeper

Please read or listen to these materials for an in-depth study of this lesson.

Further reading:

[Life-study of Romans, msg. 63, section 3](#)

[Life-study of John, msg. 33, sections 1-2](#)

[Life Messages, vol. 2, ch. 58](#)

Radio broadcast link:

Broadcast 64, [Not an Exchanged Life, but a Grafted Life](#)

Footnotes from Recovery Version of the New Testament:

Romans 11:17, footnotes 1-2

Romans 6:5, footnote 1

1 Corinthians 6:17, footnote 1

Questions for personal or corporate study:

References in brackets indicate readings or broadcasts that may be helpful in answering the questions.

- Explain how the Christian life is not an exchanged life, but rather a grafted life. (*Life-study of Romans*, msg. 63; Broadcast 64)
- What are the positive effects that result from this wonderful grafting process? (*Life-study of Romans*, msg. 63, section 4; Rom. 6:5, footnote 1, Recovery Version)

Works Cited

Lee, Witness. *The Conclusion of the New Testament*. Anaheim: Living Stream Ministry, 2006.

www.ministrybooks.org

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