

Understanding Grace Produces Humility 2022-07-31

Romans 11:19-22

Then you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear.

For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off.

Spiritual pride toward other Christians doctrine, prayer, convictions, actions...Mario cart!

- With Gentiles, new place of favor/privilege with God began pridefully rejected Jews.
- proper understanding of grace produces humility not arrogance. Romans 11:16-21

1st dough/root *Holy*...not personal/inward but set apart to God in external sense.

- 1st fruits (Abraham/patriarchs) assurance God provide greater/future harvest.

Olive tree Old Testament illustration of Israel represents privilege/blessing/favor God bestows on His people.

- Point of illustration not so much replacement as opportunity.
 - Cut off mean lose place of favor/privilege...not lose salvation CONTEXT
 - Branches represent ethnic Israel and Gentiles...not specific individuals.
- Israel's disobedience meant God turned to Gentiles to make a people for Himself.
 - Jewish limb removed = unbelief. Gentile limb grafted = faith.
 - new position of favor makes salvation possible but doesn't save.

normally graft orchard quality branch into wild stock...never opposite.

- contrary to nature is whole point...Gent grafted in unnaturally by faith/grace.
 - Inherited covenant promises originated with Israel Romans 11:18, 24a, John 4:22-23
 - Nothing to boast: unnatural branch, received what not deserve.

- Gentiles become arrogant with privileged status and repeated Jew's sin.
 - Thought they were spiritually "better" than Jews and rejected them.

Proper understanding of God's grace produces humility not arrogance.

- Guard against spiritual pride: remember you are grafted only by God's grace.
 - Humbly believe: but by grace go I. Romans 11:22, James 4:6
- Continue in kind of God that saved from severity of God as seen in cross.
 - continue in kind = faith persevere, continual depend on Jesus.
- Live with the understanding even faith is a gracious gift from God. Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 Corinthians 4:6b-7

- Every blessing is a gift of grace, should turn us toward God in humility, dependence, praise.
 - Challenge: daily humble self and look 3 time for grace given to you.

Jews would boast over Gentiles, Gentiles boast over Jews so God humbled both by making their disobedience means of others salvation Romans 11:23-31

- mystery: Israel's failure partial/temp, God never abandon His chosen. focus of chapter 11
 - branches broken off (Jews) grafted back in when all elected Gentiles saved.
- majority Jews at Jesus' return (only time in Romans) will turn to Jesus for salvation

God's handling of Jews/Gentiles intended to expose all to his mercy in Gospel. Romans 11:32, 1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 9:16, John 3:16

- "All" not refer to every individual, but all groups of people.
- Verse 32 sums up Romans to this point: all (Jew/Gentile) disobedient sinners can be saved by God's grace alone so mercy is available for all.
 - proper understanding of God's amazing grace always produces humility not arrogance and spiritual pride.