

# The Callous on Israel's Heart Is a Warning to Other Nations

## Romans 11:17–24

### 1. *A parable of the olive tree*

- a. Some branches are broken off:  
Jews
- b. Some wild branches are  
grafted in: Gentiles

17 If some of the branches  
have been broken off,  
and you,  
though a wild olive shoot,  
have been grafted in among the others  
and now share in the nourishing sap  
from the olive root,

### 2. *Warning 1:*

#### *Do not be arrogant*

- a. You are wild and grafted in
- b. You are not the root

18 Do not boast over those branches.  
If you do,  
consider this:  
You do not support the root,  
but the root supports you.

### 3. *Warning 2:*

#### *Fear complacency and unbelief*

- a. Israel was rejected  
not for the Gentiles,  
but because of unbelief
- b. The Gentiles stand,  
are saved, by faith —  
not by any merit of their own

19 You will say then,  
“Branches were broken off  
so that I could be grafted in.”

- c. God is less likely to spare  
unnatural branches  
(the Gentiles)

20 Granted.  
But they were broken off  
because of unbelief,  
and you stand by faith.  
Do not be arrogant,  
but be afraid.

21 For if God did not spare  
the natural branches,  
he will not spare you either.

### 4. *Warning 3:*

#### *Take a sharp look at the kindness and sternness of God*

- a. God was severe to those  
who fell
- b. God is kind to the steadfast

22 Consider therefore the kindness  
and sternness of God:  
sternness to those who fell,  
but kindness to you,  
provided that you continue in his kindness.  
Otherwise,  
you also will be cut off.

**5. Warning 4:**  
***The restoration***  
***is a probable event***

- a. If unbelief is removed
- b. “God is able...”
- c. The grafting  
of a natural branch (the Jews)  
is more likely  
than the calling of the Gentiles

23 And if they do not persist in unbelief,  
they will be grafted in,  
for God is able to graft them in again.

24 After all,  
if you were cut out of an olive tree  
that is wild by nature,  
and contrary to nature  
were grafted into a cultivated olive tree,  
how much more readily will these,  
the natural branches,  
be grafted into their own olive tree!