

44-Acts-Pt11-Transcript

well greetings and welcome to another wins the night Bible study tonight we're up to Acts chapter 11 and you might be asking yourself what does that opening video have to do with Acts chapter 11 and the answer is everything the question really we're asking is how does this begin and I just seem there's a sound issue let me just check give me one second Jim you're saying you're not here

sorry so how does the how does this opening image become the concluding image they are completely opposite but how does that happen this is an analogy I think or it's analogous to what happened to the church Acts chapter 11 is really about the beginning of the Gentiles being grafted into the church but rather than being grafted in the church morphed and the Gentiles took over you know think of the Gentiles really a spiritual migrants who have come into a host country and rather than come in as guests they have actually taken over and that's what happened to the church and so you're if you're not if you're not familiar with the Church of God and you're in sort of a traditional Church I have to pause here and give a trigger warning this study is not going to be politically correct in fact it might be offensive so if you are easily offended if you're very sensitive about your beliefs you may want to check out at this point on the other hand if you really are concerned about truth and and you don't care about being offended then I think you're gonna find tonight's study fascinating let's say a quick prayer and then let's get right into Acts chapter 11 our Heavenly Father we

praise you Lord for your truth we praise
you for your word we praise you and
thank you for your loving kindness and
we pray father that you'll be with us
this evening as we study Acts chapter 11
help us to understand it father and and
and help me to bring out the truth of
what's written in your word and bless
all those who hear we thank you Father
in Jesus name Amen

and so we're gonna get into it and I
should mention at the the URL right at
the the bottom here CGI'd org slash
webcast is where we have our chats at
the end of the study so if you're
watching us on Facebook or Roku or one
of the other channels and you're
watching live join us at the CGI org
slash webcast afterwards and we can talk
about what we cover

night so let's begin and before we get
into Acts chapter 11 what I'd like to do
is begin in Ephesians 2 where the
Apostle Paul says this to the Gentiles
now therefore you are no more strangers
and foreigners that's what they were
they were Gentile strangers foreigners
other nations no more but instead you
are now fellow citizens with the Saints
and of the household of God and you are
notice this you are built upon the
foundation of the apostles and prophets
Jesus Christ Himself being one of the
prophets actually Himself being the
chief Cornerstone so the foundation what
this is showing us is the foundation of
the church is Hebraic and a lot of
churches believe that the foundation of
the church is the Apostolic fathers or
the apologists the scripture doesn't say
that it says the foundation of the
church is the Apostles or are the
Apostles and the prophets so the
foundation of the church is Jewish this

is reinforced by the prophecy in Jeremiah speaking of the New Covenant that were reading about in the New Testament and he says behold the day's come says the Lord that I will make a new covenant notice who the new covenant is with and notice it who it is not with the new covenant is not with Gentiles there is no covenant that the God of Israel has with Gentiles the new covenant is going to make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah so the Old Covenant was with the house of Israel in the house of Judah and the new covenant is with the house of Judah or in the house of Israel not according to the Covenant the Old Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt which covenant they broke although I was a husband to them says the Lord but this shall be the Covenant that I will make with the house of Israel not with Gentiles there's no covenant with Gentiles this is the Covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days says the Lord I will put my law so they had the law from Moses which was written on stone but the New Covenant the law is gonna be written where I will put my law in their inward parts and write it in their hearts and will be their God and they shall be my people so the New Covenant we see two key points here the New Covenant is with Israel and Judah and the New Covenant the law will be written in their hearts and so this is what God promises in Jeremiah and so now with that backdrop that the New Covenant is with Israel and the foundation of the church is Hebraic it's all the apostles were Jews and all

the prophets were Israelites or Jews so now we with that understanding that the foundation is Hebraic let's and the New Covenant is with Israel let's now begin in Acts chapter 11 well just where we where we left off in Acts chapter 10 was where Peter had this vision and then he went to meet a head and he baptized the Gentiles Cornelius and those of his household and they of the circumcision which believed so the Jews that were with him were shocked they were they were stunned as many as came with Peter so there were six Jews that left with Peter two from Joppa to come to Caesarea and go into Cornelius is home and they were just stunned why because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit they couldn't believe it so so the the notion that Gentiles would be part of the church was not matter of fact it was not something to be taken for granted it was something that it was the furthest thing from their mind the church was Jewish and that's what they expected and the Holy Spirit was with the Jews who are the remaining tribe of all the tribes of Israel the others being scattered by Assyria and so here he says they were they were shocked Peter and they the six that were with him because the Gentiles received the Holy Spirit for they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God so the same way on Pentecost that the Jews who receive the Holy Spirit fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy that he would pour out his spirit in and have a new covenant with them they spoke in tongues now here when the Gentiles received the Holy Spirit they also speak in tongues for they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God then answered Peter can

any man forbid water that these should be baptized which have received the Holy Spirit as well as us and he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord then they prayed they asked him to stay with them certain days so he stayed in Caesarea and then now he's gonna leave Caesarea and come to Jerusalem so so in his calculus as he looked at this there was no reason not to baptize them because they had already received the Holy Spirit and so he went ahead and he baptized and nobody forbade him everybody agreed there's there's nothing that should prevent them from being baptized and brought into the church so now we come into Acts chapter 11 so remember there was they were shocked just they couldn't believe it but the evidence was there it was exactly the same way they received an in Acts chapter 2 so now in Chapter 11 as we begin verse 1 and the Apostles and brethren that were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the Word of God and when Peter was came back to Jerusalem they that were of the circumcision contended with him this was fierce they they were just astonished and shocked but hostile that this was unacceptable saying you went into men uncircumcised how dare you in other words how dare you go into men uncircumcised and you even ate with them but Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning and expounded it by order unto them saying and I just want to pause here because when we were studying Acts chapter 8 where Philip approached the Ethiopian eunuch I had said there in any window had him baptized him I had said that that the Ethiopian eunuch was a Gentile I want to retract that and

apologize for that

I think it's obvious as I'm reading now chapter 11 10 and 11 that it's obvious that the Gentile do not come into the church until Acts chapter 10 and so what happened in Acts chapter 8 was this Ethiopian eunuch who clearly was a Jew he says here he arose and went and behold a man of Ethiopia a eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians who had the charge of all her treasure had come up to Jerusalem to worship so he was going to Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Tabernacles and we know that Solomon through Sheba had had lineage and influence into the Ethiopians and so these now were Jews that were coming to keep the Feast of Tabernacles so so we don't encounter Gentiles coming into the church until now so he doesn't say he doesn't defend himself by saying well well Philip baptized at any field be an eunuch he goes from the beginning of the entry of the Gentiles and so in verse 5 now he says going from the beginning of this whole matter of the Gentiles coming into the church he says this I was in the city of Joppa praying and in a trance and I saw a vision a certain vessel descend as it had been a great sheet led down from heaven by four corners and it came even to me upon the which when I had fastened my eyes and considered I saw four-footed beasts of the earth and wild beasts and creeping things and fowls of the air and then I heard a voice saying to me arise Peter slay and eat but I said no way no way not so Lord for nothing common or unclean has at any time entered into my mouth but the voice answered me again from heaven what God has cleansed you shall not call uncommon

and this was done three times so so that
vision that that sheet are dropping down
from heaven it was taken up and dropped
down three times and all were drawn up
again into heaven and behold immediately
there were three men already come to the
house where I was sent from Cezary unto
me so clearly the three visions
one vision for each Gentile so three
Gentile men had come to him
God gives gives the vision three times
to say do not call these men common or
unclean and the spirit bathed me to go
with them doubting nothing more over
these six brethren so he stilled the six
brethren are still with him so he's
pointing about these six Jewish brethren
they accompanied me and we entered into
a Cornelius's home and he showed because
we were told not to doubt anything even
though it's unlawful for a Jew to do
this we were told by the spirit not to
doubt anything so we entered the man's
house and he showed us how he had seen
an angel in his house which stood and
said to him send men to Joppa and call
for Simon whose surname is Peter who
shall tell you words and by these words
you and all your house shall be saved
and then as I began to speak so I'm
telling him that the gospel so as I
begin to preach the gospel the Holy
Spirit fell on them the way it did on us
in Acts chapter 2 on the day of
Pentecost the way the Holy Spirit fell
on us when I started preaching to these
Gentiles the Holy Spirit fell on them in
exactly the same way so you know who
knows maybe even there were tons of fire
that were that were over them in the
same loud noise and exactly what
happened in on Pentecost happened now on
while he's speaking in in Cornelius is
home with these six Jewish brethren as

witnesses with him and so he remembered what we read in Acts chapter 1 the word of the Lord how he said John indeed baptized with water but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit and maybe that even says you will baptize with the Holy Spirit and so that's what now happened for as much then as God gave them the same gift as he did to us who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ who was I that I should withstand God so I it's obvious to us what has happened we have no control over this this is God's doing Who am I to contradict God when they heard these things so these Jews that were in this fierce style contention with Peter and who really wanted to rake him over the coals when he explained everything that happened when they heard these things they held their peace and they glorified God saying WOW so then God also to the Gentiles has granted repentance unto life so so this was no easy thing this was this was not something that they took for granted it really took this miracle is miraculous intervention for the Jews to realize that the gospel that the new covenant with Israel and with Judah has been opened up to the Gentiles and we'll talk about what that means but you'll notice now in acts 15 we're just just getting ahead of myself a little bit but we'll just race ahead a little bit we'll come here in a moment in a couple of weeks there's this first council of the church they had this issue with that with dealing with the Gentiles in verse 5 it says of 15 there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed so they were Christians that it was necessary to circumcise them that the Gentiles and to commend them to keep the law of Moses

and the Apostles and elders the elders came together to consider of this matter so this was the first council where the church had issues that they had to grapple with and make judgments on and what I want to call out here in acts 15 is the first Council of the church everybody who's sitting on the council trying to decide the matter every single member of the council is Jewish within a couple of hundred years we'll have the Council of Nicaea 325 AD with with Constantine presiding and every single member of that council is Gentile not a single Jew and in fact the hostility towards the Jews is epic and I think I'll just actually if I if I read you the see if I have it here yeah if I read you here the the letter that Constantine issued on

3:25 idea the ended come to live and I see there were two issues that they had to resolve one was the Trinity issue and we'll talk about that at a later date but the other was the Passover those were the two big decisions of the Council of Nicaea and you'll see here his letter this is his letter constant Constantine August meaning the great one to the churches so he's writing to all the churches at this meeting at the Council of Nicaea the question concerning the most holy day of the Passover celebration which he then is talking about the resurrection even though Christ says it's about his death was discussed it was resolved by the United judgment of all present and they're all Gentiles not a single Jew there if any of the apostles were to show up there them out if priced himself were to show up they'd probably kill him these are now all Gentiles and that this feast ought to be kept by all and in

every place on one and the same day
Sunday so he is he's now rewriting how
to calculate the Passover he's a
substituting Easter and he's got a way
to calculate which Sunday Easter should
be kept on for what can be more becoming
or honorable to us than that this feast
from which we date our hopes of
immortality should be observed
unfailingly by all alike so he wants
uniformity across the whole Roman Empire
according to the one ascertained order
and arrangement and first of all it
appeared an unworthy thing that in the
celebration of this most holy feast we
should follow the practice of the Jews I
mean what a terrible thing that we
should dare follow the practice of the
Jews I mean that that's the worst thing
you could possibly do he goes on here
who have impiously defiled their hands
with enormous sin and are therefore
deservedly afflicted with blindness of
soul for we have it in our power if we
abandon their custom to prolong the due
observance of this ordinance to future
ages by a truer order which we have
preserved from the from the very day of
the passion until the present time so
that's why today we observe Easter
rather than the Passover because this
man who by the way was not a Christian
he refused to be baptized and
elana his death-bed because he was
murdering and slaughtering people and he
didn't want those sins counted against
him so he was afraid to be baptized
until he was on his deathbed and then he
asked I used CBS I believe it was to
baptize him but he goes on to say that
let us then have nothing in common with
the detestable Jewish crowd for we have
received from our Savior a different way
a course at once legitimate and honor

and blah-blah-blah-blah-blah
but anyway he's basically saying that he
does not have any support for the Jews
and when he says the Jews remember that
the Christians were Jews so the early
church people would look at them and
call them Jews they were not called
Christians until Antioch so something
happened in NC after they started to be
referred to as Christians but before
that they were just considered in
another sect so here when he's really
referring to the Jews there are faithful
brethren keeping the holy days that he
is referring to as Jews and saying they
want nothing to do with them and here
you'll see Polycarp when he is visiting
this he comes after John so John all the
Apostles were resisting the Gentiles
coming in and taking over the church
with their false doctrine when John
finally died Polycarp comes after him
he's he was one of the John's disciples
and he says here in his letter to Pope
Victor that if I just read here the
Asiatic Christians or the Christians in
Asia the second pair of second sentence
the Asiatic Christians differed from the
rest of the church in their manner of
observing Easter which is really
Passover so what he's saying here is the
the Roman the Roman Empire has made
Christianity be the official religion
and here he's showing us now that the
Asiatic Christians the Christians from
the east they were very different
regarding the Easter celebration they
kept the Passover he says while the
other churches kept the feast on Sunday
now all these other churches that are
keeping the the feast on Sunday they're
keeping it on Sunday because they were
told by the Roman Empire
that that's what they should do so they

didn't they didn't receive the gospel
and convert willingly they were just
told by the Roman Empire this is now the
new religion you're now a Christian and
so the Asians were different they kept
the Passover and Pope Victor tried to
establish uniformity when the Asiatic
churches refused to comply he
excommunicated them and so here we see
this this challenge between the church
and the the political power where Easter
is being enforced by the by the Pope and
the Asiatic churches are refusing to to
go along they want to stick to the
Passover and we'll come back to that in
a moment but now fast-forward to
afterwards you see this this man John
Chrysostom in fact I was in Quebec City
yesterday and I was driving and I saw
this airport called said Saint John
Chrysostom so he sees a manner of a man
of honor they have an airport named
after him in Quebec obviously Catholics
but I'll sell it tell you John
Chrysostom was no honorable man
Chrysostom was a nickname called the
silver tongue because he was such a
powerful and eloquent and articulate
preacher so they called him Chrysostom a
cover for silver tongue but here listen
to this quote here that he he says how
dare Christians have the slightest
intercourse with Jews Jews are lustful
rapacious greedy perfidious bandits
pests of the hope pests of the universe
indeed an entire day would not suffice
to tell of there repeating their avarice
their deception of the poor their
thievery and their Huck stirring and he
has this homily about the Jews because
it was coming up to the feast days and
so he says here in his letter this
homily this sermon that he gave and so I
wanted again to engage in this contest

for if the enemies of the truth never have enough of blaspheming our benefactor we must be all the more tireless in praising the God of all and so he says he this this serious illness calls for any cure my words can bring an illness which has become implanted in the body of the church so there's this illness in the church that he is just furious that he feels he has to address and here in chapter 5 he says what is this disease it is the festivals of the pitiful and miserable Jews are soon to march upon us one after the other and in quick succession there's going to be the Feast of Trumpets the Feast of Tabernacles atonement there are many in our ranks who say they think as we do yet some of these are going to watch the festivals and others will join the Jews in keeping their feasts and observing the fast so in other words what he's saying here is that there are Christians who are keeping the feasts and as the feast days are approaching he's actually panicking and he's saying you know he's got to address this he cannot have he cannot have the church keeping the feast days and so he just tears apart the Jews and this is why I'm saying that the church morphed the church morphed it began as a Hebraic felt with a Hebraic foundation and it began with the Jews embracing Christ accepting Christ not all but the ones that did were Jews and then suddenly through first of all subtlety and then through outright hostility and violence and intimidation instead of the Gentiles being grafted into the Hebrew religion instead the whole thing morphs and how do you go from you know a thin white guy to a muscular fat black guy well you go one step at a time as you saw in the opening

video it doesn't happen all at once it doesn't happen suddenly that would shock everybody you go gradually and that's exactly what happened and when we go to Acts chapter 20 we'll see how Paul cried night and day for three years because he saw this happening he knew that this was going to happen

so continuing then as I said so we started off in acts 15 with the first council being all Jews all Jews and a couple of hundred years later the Jews are kicked out and they are there there's this hostile attitude toward them and the church has been taken over by Gentiles these these spiritual migrants have come into this host country and they've taken it over instead of being fellow citizens they now rule the place and so you'll see here you notice that when Polycarp was addressing Pope Victor he was saying that the Asiatic the Christians were resistant well notice the difference between the Christians in the province of Asia which is Turkey all of the congregation's that we read about that are now all completely Islamic all the Middle East all of these brethren have been destroyed and slaughtered and and their their descendents have embraced this lamb so all those countries did that we think of as a Muslim in the Middle East they were all Christian they were the they were the churches in Asia that Polycarp was referring to who refused to give up the Passover and why noticing chapter verse 10 of chapter 19 and this continued by the space of two years so that all they which dwelt in Asia so that's Turkey or all the Middle East heard the word that's the Roman province of Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus

both Jews and Greeks
so the Asiatic Christians heard the
gospel directly and converted
voluntarily to the truth the Western
churches were just told hey this is our
this is our religion and so they just
accepted the state religion and so when
the state told them that we're going to
keep the Passover now on Sunday okay
they couldn't care less but when the
state told the Brethren in Asia in the
Middle East that you're gonna keep
Easter on Sunday they were like no way
you can kill us you can intimidate us
and in fact they even had to kill
Polycrates we think he was the disciple
of Polycarp and he also tried to
negotiate with them in fact they think
they think they martyred Polycarp as
well because they wouldn't give up the
the Jewish festivals or I shouldn't call
them Jewish festivals they're actually
the the festivals of God now the
Gentiles notice this how Christ saw the
Gentiles when he was alive says in
Matthew 15 and behold a woman of Canaan
came out of the
same coasts and cried unto Jesus saying
have mercy on me O Lord so we think that
you know Jesus is for everybody well
here he is on earth here's this
Canaanite woman begging for mercy from
our Lord o Lord thou son of David my
daughter is grievously vexed with a
devil this is terrible
I've got this kiss this devil is vexing
my daughter but he answered her not a
word so she's in this angst
and-and-and-and really burdened by the
state of her daughter and our Lord just
ignores her he doesn't say a word and
his disciples came and begged him saying
please send her away because she's
coming after us now but he answered and

said so he doesn't speak to her he
speaks to his disciples I am NOT sent so
God the Father sent me and I'm not sent
but unto the lost sheep of the house of
Israel my my relationship is with Israel
I don't have a relationship with
Gentiles then she came and worshiped him
saying lord help me but he answered and
said it's not appropriate to take the
children's bread and cast it to dogs but
this is our Lord Jesus he called her a
dog her daughter is vexed with us with a
demon and she is just beside herself
with with with worry and she knows that
the Lord can exorcise the demons and so
- and she's worshiping him and he
ignores her he speaks to his disciples
and says my mission is to come to Israel
and then when she begged him she says he
says there look it's not appropriate
that what I have is for the children it
would be inappropriate for me to give
what's for the children to the dogs and
that's how he saw Gentiles as dogs and
again this is you know try gave your
trigger warning at the beginning so
hopefully this isn't offending you this
is truth but that the Covenant that God
has is with Israel but Abraham was to be
a blessing to all nations and all
families of the earth and the way that
Abraham is to be that blessing to all
families of the
earth is that all families of the earth
through repentance will be brought into
and grafted into Israel that they will
be grafted into this new covenant so
that God's covenant is with Israel but
all the families of the earth will be
grafted into Israel upon repentance and
so we have a choice we can remain dogs
or we can repent and become Israelites
and at the end of time when this is all
over and the father himself comes to

earth when the New Jerusalem comes down
it has 12 gates and every gate is one of
the tribes of Israel so the only way
into the New Jerusalem is through Israel
and that's that's reality that's God's
prerogative and and that's what God is
doing here
so the real acid test of the church
again it's that Hebraic root anybody who
tries to take us away from the the law
of God and that's exactly what these
Gentiles have done they they come into
the church they've taken it over and
they've taken everybody away from the
law of God but look at look at David's
love for the law of God oh how I love
your law it's my meditation all the day
I hate and I abhor lying but I love your
law great peace have they which love
your law nothing shall offend them so if
we love God's law nothing is gonna
offend us and we're not going to going
to allow anybody to take us away from
the high morality of God's law now the
way that Gentiles are blessed through
the Covenant that God made with Abraham
which then cascaded down to Israel which
then became or or was initially
exercised by the Mosaic Covenant but
that covenant failed and so now that
same Abrahamic covenant is being
fulfilled with the new covenant but the
way that all the families of the earth
are blessed is really seen here in
Romans chapter 11 in Romans chapter 11
it says beginning in verse 11 I say then
have the Jews stumbled that they should
fall like is is the stumbling of the
Jews permanent are they completely
cast off the way John Chrysostom and and
the Constantine and Pope Victor and all
the other Catholic popes are the Jews
completely written off the way they
would want us to believe well the

scripture addresses that Paul addresses that he saw how difficult the Jews were he tried his best to bring the gospel to them but they rejected it and so he's asking now the question have they stumbled so he's looking at them stumbling but is they're stumbling so that they should be destroyed god forbid god forbid that the jews should be destroyed that's Paul's answer but rather through their fall salvation has come unto the Gentiles to provoke them to jealousy so Paul is saying the fall of the Jews is temporary and by shutting the door on the Jews God is now opening up the door for the Gentiles to come in so that they can no longer be dogs that they can now be part of Israel and as they become part of Israel the purpose that God has is to provoke the Jews to jealousy now if the fall the stumbling of the Jews be the riches of the world because the Jews rejected the gospel Paul now takes it to the Gentiles to the ends of the earth as he was commanded and now the gospel goes to the ends of the earth this is the riches of the Gentiles and it all happened because the Jews rejected his gospel so the thing is if the stumbling of the Jews is the riches of the world and the diminishing of the Jews is the riches of the Gentiles how much more their fullness in other words Paul sees that the fullness of the Jews is coming God has not rejected the Jews he's temporarily blinded them and so they've stumbled and while they've stumbled the world is blessed the Gentiles are blessed well if they're stumbling brings a blessing to the Gentiles what will their rising be that's what Paul is saying because they will rise they will be brought back

and when they're brought back what will
that do for the Gentiles if they're
stumbling blesses the whole world and
enriches the whole world how much more
their fullness for I speak to you
Gentiles in as much as I am the apostle
of the Gentiles so that's my mission the
Paul is saying that's my raw I am the
apostle to the Gentiles and so I'm
talking to you Gentiles I magnify my
office and be sure that you understand
this is an apostle speaking to you so
I'm not the same as you he's saying I
have been made I've been selected to be
an apostle and I'm your apostle and I'm
now telling you as your apostle here's
the reality with respect to the Jews so
you can follow Constantine or we can
follow Paul it just depends on who you
think has more authority who is the
rightful voice of God again Constantine
wasn't even a Christian if by any means
I may provoke to emulation then which
are my flesh and might save some of them
so he still thinks while he's doing his
preaching there's still a an option for
them today in his day that they could
repent and come into the church so he so
he's trying to provoke them for if the
casting away verse 15 of them be the
reconciling of the world so again he's
he wants us to understand that the
stumbling of the Jews is a blessing to
the world and he keeps wanting to remind
us that the Jews are coming back and if
they're stumbling as a blessing what
will their return be so he says for if
the casting away of them be the
reconciling of the world what shall the
receiving of them be and so we have to
go into the other prophecies Isaiah
Zachariah
the book of Revelation to get a bit of a
vision of what God has in mind but Paul

knows Paul saw things he was taken up to heaven he had visions or a vision of being in heaven and was taught directly by God so there's an understanding that he had

of God's purpose and so here he says what shall the reckon run what shall the receiving of them be but life from the dead and so there's something that's gonna happen in the eternal life that is gonna bless the whole world and it's gonna be a blessing through the Jews through Israel for if the first-fruit be holy the lump is also holy so so the first fruit if that part of the dough is holy and you put that in that has the the leaven in it then the whole lump becomes leaven it's the same thing he's saying if they lift the first-fruit is holy then the full harvest is holy so if the first fruit is accepted then the whole harvest is accepted so and the first fruit being Israel the lump is also holy and if the root be holy so are the branches and we saw that the root the foundation are the apostles and the prophets and so the root is Israel and if the root is holy the branches are holy because the branches come out of the root and if some of the branches be broken off so so if some of the branches are broken off then he says here and you being a wild olive tree were grafted in among them so so that's the whole point there's a difference between grafting and morphing so when you more if you completely change everything everything changes but when you graft the tree remains the tree so here in this case they've drafted grapefruit and orange and different fruits into the same tree so all the fruit partake of the same root and it really at the root it's the same tree but all all the all the

branches benefit from the root that's grafted more thing is you completely change everything and it becomes a completely different trade but here he's warning then he says in verse 17 if some of the branches that's the Jews be broken off and you being a wild olive tree you're not even part of the natural tree you were grafted in among them and with them you partake of the root fatness of the olive tree so you're participating in the root because you've been grafted in boast not against the branches don't do that don't get a dog Chrysostom Constantine the Pope's Pope Victor and all the other popes your you've taken over the church and you're now boasting against the roof don't do that and we don't want to do that so he says if the branch of some of the branches be broken off and you being a wild olive tree we're grafted in among them and with them partake of the root and fatness of the olive tree so you've come into the church you now fellow citizens no longer foreigners and strangers we're all getting blessed by the saint by the Holy Spirit which is of Israel both not against the branches but if you boast you bear not the root but the root bears you so so that's where we see here if you've been grafted in you're not bearing the root you're benefiting from the root the reason your lustrous and you're able to bear fruit is you're getting the nutrition from the root so the root is supporting you you're not supporting the root you will say then well the branches were broken off that I might be grafted in I'm so special so get rid of them so that I can come in well because of unbelief they were broken off and you stand by faith in

other words if you don't believe in the mystery of the plan of God and that God is going to be bringing the Jews back in if you're blind to that and you don't want to believe that and you believe that you know you're just the thing you're the one you're the special one they had to be broken off and now we want nothing to do with them we want to persecute them and destroy them because we're the special ones then you don't believe anymore and they were broken off because of unbelief and and they were the natural branch you're the the grafted in branch the unnatural the wild branch and now you're displaying the same level of unbelief that they did and they were broken off because of unbelief well because of unbelief they were broken off and you stand by faith so he's saying if I were you I'd be careful be careful don't be arrogant do not in fact it says right here be not high-minded don't be arrogant but fear for if God spared not the natural branches be careful lest he also spare not you so so the Jews were broken off there the natural branches and he didn't spare them your the unnatural branch as a Gentile so all these Greeks that have coming in the Greek philosophers who come in who have come in and taken over the church your unnatural your wild if he can if he broke off the natural branch what would it do to you behold therefore the goodness and severity of God on them which fell severity so they've been cut off they've been broken off but toward you goodness if you continue in his goodness and don't become high-minded otherwise you also shall be cut off and so that's really what has happened now is but Paul's prophecy has come true

that instead of being grafted into the root that the tree has morphed and it's become a freak of nature and it's become something else other than the true Church and so they've been broken off and people are running around believing that there are Christians believing they have the holy spirit but they're breaking God's law every single day they're not observing his festivals they're eating unclean meats they're doing everything wrong because they were hime there they were high-minded and their root is no longer the apostles and the prophets and Jesus Christ their root is the Apostolic fathers who if you've ever read their material it's laughable I I actually read the apostolate fathers hoping to see some profound thoughts and and was deeply disappointed it was as I say was laughable and they called him the apostolate fathers and the apologists these were the Greek philosophers who embraced Christianity and then tried to defend it with the the state to show their high-minded colleagues that Christianity was legitimate and just mixed all kinds of Greek philosophy into it including the Trinity and so these guys when you read their writings their writings are profound Origen Tertullian all these apologists are powerful thinkers but philosophers who have completely destroyed the church and and they have become the foundation of the sunday-keeping Christian churches and they're no longer they no longer have the route and they're boasting against the route I did give a trigger warning at the beginning of this study is not politically correct but we are concerned about truth and so you he warns them here if you don't continue in

his goodness realizing that by His mercy you've been grafted in you also will be cut off and they also if they abide not still in unbelief shall be grafted in in other words Paul is saying for the Jew there's still the hope of repentance and we have to read the prophecies in zechariah zechariah 12 and 14 that show when Jerusalem is surrounded by armies and Jerusalem is being slaughtered all the Jews are being slaughtered and the people who are slaughtering them believe that they have to slaughter every last one of them at that time Jesus Christ is going to show himself strong as the conquering Lion of the tribe of Judah and Judah is gonna look upon him whose hands they have pierced and they're going to accept him as their Lord and so if we go into the book of Revelation as well we'll see how God treats the Jew and here by bringing in the Gentiles he's actually gathering all of Israel because Israel has been scattered and we can we can trace them but even even when we can identify them their genealogy is all mixed up and that's why the Jews wouldn't accept this the sumerians because their genealogy was mixed and so God now by bringing in the Gentiles he's also bringing in Israel back into the fold

and so here he says verse 24 sorry verse 23 so if they don't abide in unbelief in other words if they repent they'll be grafting again for God is also able to graft them in again for if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature and you were graft contrary to nature into a good olive tree so

you're a Gentile you have nothing to do with Israel

you're a wild olive branch and God is

able to graft you into the church if he can do that with you how much more shall these Jews which are of the natural branches be grafted into their own olive tree how much easier it's going to be to bring the Jews back into the church and to bring them into Christ because that's their natural home

the foundation is Hebraic and they are Hebrews and so you bring the Hebrew into a Hebraic root it's all good and if God can bring a Gentile into a Hebraic root how much more can he bring a Hebrew into a Hebraic root for I would not brethren that you should be ignorant of this mystery it's a mystery and I'm the apostle to the Gentiles you're Gentiles and I need you to understand this mystery lest you should be wise in your own conceits and that's exactly what's happened the the Christian Church has become wise in its own conceits and it's rejected the Hebraic foundation of the apostles and the prophets Jesus Christ being the chief Cornerstone so here's the mystery that blindness in part has happened to Israel in part so the early church were Jews but most of the Jews rejected the truth so it's not all Jews who rejected the truth that the church was Jewish but in part blindness has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in so so this is a period this is the period of the Gentiles and so in two ways

way number one is Gentiles are being invited into the church and and these wild olive trees are being grafted into the natural Hebraic olive tree and the other if we look in Matthew 24 and Luke 22 it's also the time of the Gentiles to come to the fall so so Gentiles now have a choice repent and become part of the truth or continue in their evil and and

it's gonna get pronounced so so it's
gonna get really really evil the time
before Christ comes is an evil evil time
and Gentiles have a decision to make do
I go with the flow and receive the mark
of the beast or do I repent
and come into the church and so this is
now the time of the Church of God to
really be bold and bring this truth to
Christians so that Christians can study
their their their religion and see where
did that where did it come from where
did Trinity come from where did
sunday-keeping come from where did
Easter come from where did all these
traditions come from because they don't
seem to be in the root of the tree and
so this is this is the time for Gentiles
to come into the church while the Jews
are blinded but those that don't come
into the church are going to receive the
mark of the beast and are going to
embrace the evil of the the Gentile
beast and so the the choice is clear to
come into the truth if God opens your is
so gracious as to open your mind to the
truth and so he says here blindness has
happened in part to Israel until the
fullness of the Gentiles be come in and
so when the fullness of the Gentiles
come in he says and so all Israel shall
be saved because Gentiles Israel has
been mixed in with the Gentiles and so
by bringing all the Gentiles in all
Israel both Israel the house of Israel
and the house of Judah shall be saved as
it is written there shall come out of
Zion the deliverer and shall turn away
ungodliness from Jacob and again we can
read the prophecies in Zechariah to see
how that is fulfilled and just quickly
here in acts 20 just again to show the
Hebraic route that that john chrysostom
was so railing against keeping the holy

days if we just look at acts 20 we see the apostle to the Gentiles we sailed away from Philip I that's in Macedonia Gentile people after the days of unleavened bread so they were keeping the unleavened bread and came unto them to trow us in five days where we abode seven days for Paul had determined in verse 16 two sets to sail by Ephesus because he would not spend time in Asia for he was hurrying if it were possible for him to be in Jerusalem the day of Pentecost and the only way you can calculate Pentecost is if you keep Passover and the days of unleavened bread and you identified the Sabbath during the days of unleavened bread and count fifty days from that Sabbath so the the church in acts 2 when they're keeping of Pentecost we know that in order to keep the days of Pentecost they were keeping Passover and the days of unleavened bread otherwise they had never had no idea when Pentecost is and so same here the the Gentiles that are identified here that are that are with Paul and Paul is their apostle they're keeping Passover they're keeping unleavened bread they're calculating Pentecost so they can keep Pentecost and so that's why when the Pope sent this edict that all the churches must keep Passover the Brethren in Asia the province the Roman province of Asia which is the Middle East they resisted and said no we've been taught directly by Paul we understand the gospel we understand what these holy days mean we understand the significance of the Passover we're not gonna take a counterfeit Easter sorry and then obviously they were persecuted and excommunicated and that's where the

separation of the Hebraic church happened from the Gentile church and then the Gentile church morphs in becomes the exact opposite of what the church actually began as let's uh let's go back to acts 11 and just finish the chapter says here when they heard these things how the beginning of the Gentiles receiving the Holy Spirit and being grafted into the church they held their peace little did they know that instead of being guests in the church these Gentiles but Gentiles were going to take over the church and kick the Jews out when they heard these things they held their peace and glorified God saying so God also to the Gentiles has granted repentance unto life now they which were scattered abroad remember in acts 8 that the church was persecuted at Stephens death and they were scattered so it goes back and calls back to them they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travel this remember the Apostle stayed in Jerusalem and the Brethren scattered some were imprisoned the Apostle stayed in Jerusalem the rest were scattered those brethren that were scattered traveled as far as Venice and Cyprus and Antioch preaching the word noticed this they preach the word to none but unto the Jews only so they were very clear this this church this church of God it's not for Gentiles it's for Israel and so they went they were very careful it's only because Peter had this vision and Paul was recruited that the church was opened up to the Gentiles so that all the families of the earth could be blessed by coming into Israel so they preached it to the Jews only they hadn't yet received this knowledge and some of

them were men of cyprus and cyrene which when they were come to antioch spoke to the greeks they're preaching the Lord Jesus so these Greeks are Jewish Greek Greek Jews so they spoke to them and the hand of the Lord was with them and a great number believed so so the churches growing growing growing but it's growing among the Jewish population so so few Gentiles are there but the the Jib the church is growing growing growing by the thousands buttocks Jews and now because of the efficacy of Paul's ministry it opens up to the Gentiles and and so before you know it the Gentiles are outnumbering the Jews and the hand of the Lord was with them so so God supported their ministry and a great number believed and turned to the Lord so so blindness in part has happened to Israel not totally because look how many were believing so so blindness in part it's not all the Jews who rejected Christ in part so a great many believed then tidings of these things came to the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem and they sent forth barnabas that he should go as far as antioch so they sent him to support these brethren who when he came and had seen the grace of god was glad and he exhorted them all so he's obviously in a leadership role and so he exhorted them all that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord so you really wanted to hold on to this truth that they've been given for he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith and many brethren were added to the Lord Meagan these are Jewish brethren so that the church is growing among the Jewish population and when he if and then he then departed Barnabas to Tarsus to seek Saul and when

he had found him he brought him unto Antioch and it came to pass that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church and taught many people so now Paul is teaching the Gentiles and building the church among the Gentile population and now Barnabas joins him and stays with him a whole year and they taught a lot of people and the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch so prior to this they were just a sect of the Jews if anything they were called the way the people of the way they were the people of the way there were just another Jewish sect but here now as a result of Paul's work among those in in Antioch they're now called Christians and that was a derogatory term as I understand it but that's where that's where the term first began and in those days Came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch so profits gained so a lot of people believe that you know Christ was the last prophet no he wasn't he's not the last Christian prophet there were many prophets and throughout the book of Acts there were prophets prophetesses even in Revelation we see there's gonna be prophets true prophets so we have prophets after Christ but we never have prophets that contradict the teachings of Christ we never have prophets that contradict all the prophecies of all of the long line of prophets of Israel and and Paul makes that very clear when he speaking to the Corinthians in chapter 14 he says the spirit of the profits are subject to the prophets you will never have a true prophet of God contradict or or completely negates prophecies from other prophets all the prophets sees are intertwined and so a true prophet what he says will integrate with and match

and support and extend and elaborate and articulate what prophets before have said and so we can tell a true and a false prophet simply by this the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets because there's one God and it's one Holy Spirit that is speaking through men and so they're not going to contradict themselves and so their prophets came up from Jerusalem into Antioch and there stood up one of them named Agabus and he explained by the spirits signified by the spirit that there should be a great famine a great dearth throughout all the world which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar so so he saw it coming and it actually came so he just warned them there's a great famine that's coming how did they respond then the disciples every man according to his ability so so they're all in there they're they're obeying this prophecy and preparing for it but they all have different means but according to their means every single person according to their ability determined to send relief to the Brethren which dwelt in Judea so this great this great famine is coming is going to really impact Judea so the Brethren are going to gather what they have and send it to to provide relief to them which also so they determined to do this in verse 29 and then in verse 30 it says they did it which they also did and then they sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul notice who they sent it to the elders and you know I think again this is something else that we've sort of drifted away from is authority in the church that that God does have authority in the church and and here the church

had no problem working with the elders and the same way we saw earlier I believe it was in Acts chapter 6 where the or even chapter 5 where they brought all of their wealth and put it the Apostles feet and then the Apostles would distribute it and then the Apostles were getting burdened by the logistics so they appointed deacons to distribute it and the Brethren just trusted their leadership the elders and the Deacons and so here they're doing the same thing they're gathering all this wealth and they're sending it to the elders in Jerusalem and they say you distribute it the Holy Spirit is working with you proverbs say when the righteous bear rule the people rejoice and so leadership is not a horrible thing leadership is not a curse it can be it should be a blessing and so here they very clearly see the eldership as a blessing they send it by Barnabas and Saul and now Barnabas and Saul are going to head to Jerusalem to provide this relief and so that's now the end of Acts chapter 11 I hope it was provocative I hope it was enjoyable I hope that you have questions and a desire to get to the root of this to get to what is true and and what what are the attributes of the true church and then what is it what what do we call Christianity today and how come it's so different let's ask these questions and let's let's get answers to them and again if you're watching live and you'd like to talk we're gonna head over now to CGI org slash webcast and we're happy to entertain your questions if you're not watching live but you do have questions send us an e-mail info at CGI org that's info at CGI org last note is next

week I will be traveling on Wednesday evening so I'm going to do the Bible study on Thursday evening so next week we'll have same time 6:30 central 7:30 Eastern but we'll be on Thursday evening and if you can't watch live I apologize hopefully you'll get the the rerun on YouTube or Facebook or wrote and it really enjoyed having you with us today and I look forward to seeing you on the chat or hearing from you with via email and again hopefully God willing seeing you next week god bless