

# Personal Applications of Olive Symbolism

## Symbol

Planted in God's vineyard  
Olive trees grow slowly  
Without care olives become wild  
Each tree needs particular care  
Even trees in good soil go wild  
Branches should balance the roots  
Olive trees like dry, rocky soil  
Strong roots will support the stock  
Branches should not become lofty  
Pruning is necessary  
Each branch needs light to grow  
Prunings must not cumber the ground  
Grafting will preserve the stock  
Dunging is necessary  
Olive oil is very valuable  
Pressure is needed to extract oil  
"What could I have done more?"  
"It grieveth me to lose this tree"  
"Spare it a little longer"

## Possible Applications

Membership in God's church  
Spiritual growth is slow  
We must remain faithful  
Lord knows us individually  
Use blessings properly  
Grow patiently and deeply  
Adversity can be a blessing  
Keep spiritual roots strong  
Avoid pride  
Repent regularly  
Keep Light of Christ in all  
Completely remove evil  
Draw strength from others  
Study, ponder, and pray  
The worth of souls is great  
Attaining purity takes work  
God does all he can for us  
God loves his children  
The Lord is patient with us

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**Key Scripture** Jacob 5

**Explanation** The tame olive tree in Jacob 5 may represent not only the house of Israel but also each of us personally. Listed in this chart are symbolic elements of the olive tree allegory and possible personal applications of them. While the gathering of the house of Israel is of utmost concern, personal conversion to the gospel of Jesus Christ as a member of the house of Israel may be even more important. Thus Zenos's allegory should be read and applied in terms of individual as well as collective salvation.