



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Isaiah Sermon Series

Supports Session 2: God Sends

Sermon Title: "Sour Grapes" (Isaiah 5)

Connection to Isaiah 6

In chapter 6, God formally commissions Isaiah to be a prophet. Chapter 5 gives us insight into the God that has commissioned him and the people that God is commissioning him to go prophecy to. God uses the image of the vineyard to demonstrate His relationship to His people.

Introduction/Opening

Have you ever taken a bite of something that was absolutely repulsive? This is a shocking experience. It is immediately met with a gag reflex. Now multiply this experience by a million, and you will understand what is so disturbing about God's vineyard as described in Isaiah 5. Isaiah is clear that the vineyard is God's people (v. 7). He allows us to see the heart of God that has formed and cared for this vineyard, but God gets a horrible return on His investment. The vineyard is not producing lush and beautiful grapes; it is producing worthless grapes (v. 2).

Outline

1. Grace that is passionately demonstrated (5:1-7)
 - a) A love song (v. 1a)
 - b) The characters in the love song: God and the people (vv. 1b,7)
 - c) How did this vineyard go so bad? (vv. 2-4)
 - i. The love that God had lavished on them
 - ii. The response of the people to the love of God
 - d) What is God going to do with these people that He loves? (vv. 5-7a)
 - e) Why? (7b)

2. Grace that is ruthlessly rejected (5:8-24)
 - a) Woes dominate
 - i. A woe is the opposite of blessing
 - ii. There are six woes in this chapter. (See verses 8, 11, 18, 20, 21, 22.)
 - b) Evidence of rejecting God's grace
 - i. Greed (v. 8)
 - ii. Intoxication (vv. 11-12)
 - iii. Arrogance (vv. 18-19)
 - iv. Perversion (vv. 20-21)
 - v. Injustice (vv. 22-23)

3. Grace that is traumatically exhausted (5:24-30)
 - a) What we have already seen
 - i. God will destroy the vineyard (vv. 5-6).
 - ii. God will exile the people (v. 13).
 - b) God will actively judge His people by the Assyrians. (See verse 26.)

Conclusion

How does a chapter on judgment of a vineyard give us hope? As we look to the New Testament, we see that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches (John 15:1-5). God offered up His Son so that we could be forgiven, fruitful, and faithful. Jesus was crucified as a victim of sin, but He triumphed over the ultimate onslaught of death with resurrection. When we believe and abide in Him, we will not be unfruitful because Christ triumphed on our behalf. Through our union with Christ through faith, we will bear the fruit that God delights in seeing.

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