DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

Aug 2016

Isaiah

Holy Living

Lesson # 4 The Song of the Vineyard

INTRODUCTION

What's your most successful garden? Why?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read Isaiah 5

- 1. What was done to prepare the vineyard? What more could have been done? Vs vs 4
- 2. What good grapes was the Lord expecting? Vv 7; 10 What wild grapes were sown instead?
- 3. What are some of the fruits that people use today to evaluate spirituality? Gal 5:22-23

Note: As listed in Gal 5:22-23, this fruit is the evidence one may expect from a life in which the Spirit of God is living and reigning. Another fruit, translated "temperance" by the KJV, is the Greek word for self-control, that ability to hold oneself in, to keep oneself in check. It is significant that the Spirit is said to be the one responsible for this fruit. Since these qualities are the fruit of the Spirit, it is self-evident that legalism and obedience to law cannot originate or produce them.¹

Note: Isaiah named six woes (sins) that brought judgment on the land.

- a) How did Isaiah describe their covetousness? Vv 8-10; Lev 25:23-28
- b) Wine was common. Why was drunkenness prohibited? Vv 11-17; **Pr 20:1**
- c) How does <u>carelessness</u> Vv18-19 compare to the commandment in **Ex 20:7**?
- d) Deception (v 20) (calling evil good) was prevalent then. How does that compare to today?
- e) Why do people become prideful (v 21) when they listen to themselves rather than God? **Pr 3:7**
- f) God is against <u>injustice</u>. What did Isaiah say would happen to the corrupt judges and politicians? Vv 22-25

APPLICATION

How would God assess the fruit in your life?

Isaiah identified a person who is blind to spiritual realities as one who cannot "perceive the LORD's actions" or has refused to "see the work of His hands." While claiming to welcome the Lord's redemptive action (v. 19), they are unable to understand what He is already doing to enact His judgments. They insist on seeing the Lord at work, according to their own idea of what He is supposed to do, before they will believe in Him. Jesus rejected the idea of doing another miracle, or sign, to prove who He was (Mt 16:1–4). The people already had the Law and the Prophets (Lk 16:29–31). Isaiah understood that, eventually, God would blind the eyes of persistent unbelievers so that they would not be able to see the truth (Is 6:9–10; see Mk 4:11–12; Ac 28:27).²

KJV King James Version

Elwell, W. A., & Comfort, P. W. (2001). *Tyndale Bible dictionary*. Tyndale reference library (499). Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale House Publishers.

Cabal, T., Brand, C. O., Clendenen, E. R., Copan, P., Moreland, J., & Powell, D. (2007). *The Apologetics Study Bible: Real Questions, Straight Answers, Stronger Faith* (1000). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.