

# Let's Worship God

13th-18th November 2023

Isaiah



Isaiah

# Isaiah

## **Monday - Isaiah 4:2-6 - The Branch**

This branch, this shoot, this sapling, is a picture not of something, but of someone. Who is this branch? This is a name for Jesus (Isaiah 11:1; Jeremiah 33:15; Zechariah 3:8 and 6:12). We see him portrayed here as glorified, resurrected, with his work complete. He who is the branch has leaves, has fruit. He has a people such as we see here in verses 3 and 4. Here we see those who are not cast out of Zion, not led away. No, because God has held on to them by his grace. They remain in Jerusalem. They're a remnant not only preserved by grace alone, but they are a remnant whose lives are characterized by grace and holiness.

In verses 5-6 we have a picture here of the shekinah glory, the glory of God, indwelt by Jesus. This glory is no longer merely hovering over the Tabernacle or Temple. The picture is of the glory over top of every godly household and above every godly assembly. All have the special presence of God. The one who is the branch, the one who is the glory of his people, protects us and preserves us. God does not look upon your sin, your foolishness, your filthiness, your remaining lack of sanctification. He looks upon you, and he sees Jesus, the Son of his delight. He sees you attached, thriving, growing, bearing beautiful foliage and delightful fruit. If you are not in Jesus Christ, you are cut off, you're abandoned, you're dead. But you can call out to Jesus Christ. Cry out to Him, for He promises life to you if you will come to Him. Cry out to Him to save you, to rescue you. Cry out to Jesus for forgiveness of sin. And all this glory, all this protection, all this life with the guarantee of life forevermore, shall be yours when you are in union and communion with Him, who is the Branch. Let us all look to Him, let us all be united to Him!

## **Questions**

1. Who is the Branch?
2. What does Christ do for His people?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that your unbelieving friends and family would cry out to Jesus.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

But the LORD of hosts is exalted in justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness. Isaiah 4:16

**Praise: Psalm 59 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## **Tuesday - Isaiah 5:1-4 - The Vineyard**

The beloved of Isaiah takes this garden and tends to it specially. We read in verse 7 that the vineyard is the vineyard of Jehovah. So that's who the beloved is. The vineyard is Israel. The beloved places the vineyard perfectly and prominently. He is very diligent to care for it. It has His special favor and His special protection. He brings in the best sort of vines. There's a tower, a place of protection and watching over in the midst of his vineyard. All is made perfect. The beloved spares nothing in having a vineyard that should bring forth delicious grapes, useful raisins, and wine that is perfect. But that's not happens.

Looking ahead to verse 7, the kind of fruit that God is expecting is justice and righteousness. But what He gets, what we have translated here as wild grapes can be also translated bad grapes. These are nasty and sour. They are disgusting. This is an indictment of Israel in general and of Judah and Jerusalem, in particular, for horrendous hypocrisy and outright apostasy. These things are the fruit of unchanged hearts, and they will bring judgment. That's what we read here in verses 3-4. The inhabitants of Jerusalem and Judah are called upon to judge themselves. Their own mouths will shame and condemn them. For outwardly, what else could God have done for His people? God has set them in a fruitful land, a land of milk and honey. He has specially prepared it by having the peoples who had lived there put together vineyards and olive groves, cities, and houses. He has also cleared the stones out - the people of Canaan. He has put within the land a people of His own whom He has redeemed. He is there in their midst. All the external means for their blessing, all the external means for their spiritual fruitfulness are supplied by God. There is just no warrant, no reason for this apostasy, for this falling away. Nothing can justify the awful way that things have turned out.

### **Questions**

1. Who is the beloved and what is the vineyard?
2. What had God done for His people?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks for all that God has done for you.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

But the LORD of hosts is exalted in justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness. Isaiah 4:16

**Praise: Psalm 60 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## **Wednesday - Isaiah 5:5-7 - The Consequences**

God takes away the hedge of the vineyard. They who are represented by the vineyard will no longer be specially distinguished from the nations. Then there is the breaking down of its wall. What will come up will be briars and thorns. There will be no more rain. There will be no more grace to a people who spurned it, no more blessing, no more coming down of the Holy Spirit. Pictured here is the abandonment of earthly Israel, or at least the abandonment of all but the remnant.

When did this happen? Well, it happened to a large extent with successive judgment in Isaiah's own day, with the Assyrians coming down and breaking much of the power of Judah. It happened with the Babylonians, who destroyed the Temple and the city, and who took the people off into captivity. But ultimately the greatest thing that this points to is when the people rebelled against Rome, and they were destroyed, even as Jesus had told them would happen. Within a generation of their rejection of Him, judgment came upon them.

What about all those Jews? It seems clear in Romans 11 that God will yet be gracious to them, will yet graft them back into his people, they will be brought again to Jesus Christ. For the only true people of God, in Isaiah's day or in anyone else's day, are those who have either looked forward in anticipation to Christ and his work, or who now look back to it. They looked forward in promise. We look back at promise accomplished.

This is a warning to religious people. What sort of fruit are you displaying? Fruit shows forth what's in the heart. Let us cry out to Him who is the Lord of the vineyard, for only he enables one to have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Let us look to Him, for in Him alone is deliverance, in Him alone is fruitfulness, in Him alone is life.

## **Questions**

1. What will God do to this vineyard?
2. What is the characteristic of the true people of God?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that we would show the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

But the LORD of hosts is exalted in justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness. Isaiah 4:16

**Praise: Psalm 61 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## Thursday - Isaiah 5:8-10 - Bad Fruit: Greed

Here are several woes pronounced. We're going to look at each of these as the bad fruit that were found in the people of God, and sadly are often found in those who profess to be the people of God in all ages. The first bad fruit that we shall look at is greed. Isaiah was a prophet to the people of God in a time of great outward prosperity. The people were rich financially, and powerful in a military sense. The land grab here is very much an example of greed, which Paul calls idolatry in Colossians 3:5. Greed means you want everything. You want everything, and you don't want others to have anything. You want it all. That is the heart of greediness. Paul calls it idolatry because the greedy person sets his heart and sets his joy upon, not his God, but things, and he must have more and more.

Sadly, such greed so often characterizes those who profess to be the people of God today. Is it bad to be rich? Scripture does not say that. But all that we have is to be used for the glory of God. If we have great wealth, it gives far wider opportunity for blessing the rest of the church of Jesus Christ. It gives far greater opportunity to bring glory to Jesus Christ, and it gives far greater responsibility to do that. The trouble is, the attitude of so many believers, or professed believers, is not that at all. They seek their fulfillment in things. They make their own wills and their own desires, not the will and desire and glory of God to be sovereign.

Ten acres of vineyard shall yield one bath. Depending on who you read, some scholars think that this is about five gallons, others seven and a half gallons. Ten acres of vines only yielding this - that's a tiny, tiny bit. This is what sin and trust in anything else but the triune God comes to at the end. Sin and false gods promise wealth, power, beauty, and they promise you will be as gods. But what really comes? Ruin, silence, death. People of God, don't be seduced by the world. Look to God in Christ, for there and there alone is deliverance.

### Questions

1. What bad fruit do we see in these verses?
2. How will God judge this bad fruit?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would use all that God has given you for His glory.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

But the LORD of hosts is exalted in justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness. Isaiah 4:16

**Praise: Psalm 62 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## **Friday - Isaiah 5:11-12 - Bad Fruit: Sensuality**

Sensuality is when we make things that give our body pleasure to be the greatest thing that there is. For example, is it wrong to eat food? No. Is it wrong to make eating food the most important part of your life? Now we're getting into a problem, and this is an example of sensuality. Is the food the problem? No. What's the problem? Your heart. You're making an idol, so to speak, of your belly. This is a sin that the Bible calls gluttony. It's one sort of sensuality. There are other kinds of sensuality as well that we see in these verses.

In verses 11-12 we have those who are drunk. Is there anything wrong with the use of strong drink or wine? No, the Bible does not say so. But what the Bible does say is that getting drunk is a sin. It's a terrible sin, and it leads to many other sins as well, because when one is drunk, one does stupid, foolish, and wicked things. These people want to get drunk. They are working at it. This isn't something that happened by accident. Is there anything wrong with music? No, not at all. But sensuality is characterizing them. They want their bodily pleasure. Above all, what sensuality does is take the good gifts of God and pervert them and abuse them in order to push God away. That is exactly what they are doing. Instead of using wine to make their hearts glad, they drink it in order to become insensible to God's work. Instead of enjoying the music and the harmony and order which speaks of God's beautiful creation, they use it to drown out the sound of reality. They don't want to know God, they don't want to hear about His works of redemption, and they certainly do not want to hear of His works of judgment. This is the danger of sensuality. This is the danger of allowing God's gifts to be abused and make them into our highest good, because we end up pushing God away. What was going on was a complete refusal to listen to God.

### **Questions**

1. What is sensuality?
2. What were these people doing?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for those around us who are trying to drown out God's Word.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

But the LORD of hosts is exalted in justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness. Isaiah 4:16

**Praise: Psalm 63 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# Isaiah

## **Saturday - Isaiah 5:13-17 - Bad Fruit: Sensuality- Part Two**

God condemns this sensuality. God says, 'you want to depend upon gluttony? I shall starve you. You want to depend upon drunkenness? I shall kill you with thirst. You want to enlarge your parties, to party on. Well, I will enlarge the grave.' They sought their own glory, and so what they shall receive is shame.

God, who is holy, shall be exalted and glorified. God will not be mocked when we madly go after our pleasures, when we insanely go after our greed, when personal peace and affluence become our gods. God can be and is exalted in judgement. It glorifies God indeed to save sinners. Rejoice in that. But God is glorified in the destruction of sinners. He is glorified in judgement. Sometimes Christians recoil from this idea. Part of the problem is that we think man's salvation and man's good is the ultimate matter. They are not. They are good things, otherwise God would not do them. But the ultimate goal of God, the ultimate good, is His glory. Saving many is a way that God is glorified, but God is glorified in judgement as well.

There is another picture in verse 17. It's a picture of the godly, the lambs, who have been endangered by the wolves in their greed and sensuality. The lambs here are left in peace and prosperity. Strangers or nomads eat in the ruins. This is speaking of you who come from families and from nations that were strangers to the covenant, but are drawn in by the grace of God in Jesus Christ. As the gospel has gone out to all the earth, you who were strangers to the covenant of grace are grafted into the stock of the olive tree, as Paul speaks of in Romans 11. The bad fruit must go to destruction. But God's people shall be preserved, protected, prospered. You shall yet see God's hand of deliverance. So fret not, fear not. God has made you to be good fruit. God, by his indwelling Spirit, is bringing about more and more the fruit of the Spirit in your life.

### **Question**

1. What judgement does God bring?
2. What gracious thing does God do for strangers?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

But the LORD of hosts is exalted in justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness. Isaiah 4:16

**Praise: Psalm 64 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

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