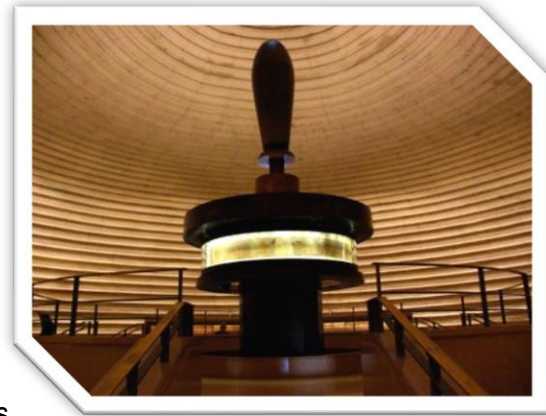


# ISAIAH 5 vs 1

**<sup>1</sup> Now I will sing to My much-Beloved... a song of My Beloved about His vineyard.**

/ More than 100 times, vineyard is mentioned in the Scriptures. Eden was a vineyard where Adam was placed to both **work** and **guard**... what came from the heart of God: an assignment given to all of us in every generation. The parables of Jesus are best understood by those of an agrarian society -- common experiences understood by 90% of the world today (though those with plastic credit cards and a list of entitlements might lack understanding). A vineyard was the chief place of learning, of labor and reward. In the NT, the night He was betrayed, Jesus told us: I Am the true Vine, My Father is the Chief worker of His vineyard... who planted and now actively oversees its growth -- **John 15**; Jesus is the True vine... so He is the True Conduit of life connecting what is growing in the vineyard... with life.



**Now I will sing to My much-Beloved... a song of My Beloved about His vineyard.**

I bet this love song is a joyous song... so let's sing along...

**My much-Beloved has a vineyard on a very fruitful hill:**



**<sup>2</sup> And [1] He fenced it, and [2] gathered out its stones and [3] planted it with the choicest vine and [4] built a tower in the midst of it, and [5] also made a winepress there** / so He got to work immediately, He is a good caretaker of this vineyard, probably the finest in town; with the healthiest planting; so He did all this to watch over it, because He anticipated a bumper crop for an excellent harvest:

**and He looked that it should bring forth grapes** / so it seems that He did all He knew to do, right? Can you think of anything He forgot to do?

**and it brought forth rotten grapes** / just think about it; can you imagine? Sour grapes! I bet He was disappointed. Wow! It is disappointing, isn't it? Like one of those sad country-western songs.

**<sup>3</sup> And now, you residents in Jerusalem and men of Judah** / the LORD says this capital and its people – Judah and Benjamin, 2 southern tribes; most of Israel was resettled in Assyria; and since these people didn't learn anything from those 10 tribes; so the Lord is going to deal with them,

**I ask you to judge between Me and My vineyard.**

# ISAIAH 5 vs 1

**4 What more could I do to My vineyard, that I have not done? When I expected it to produce grapes, Why did it produce rotten grapes?**

So, having thought about this worthless parcel of unproductive land... the LORD doesn't get all moody and sulky, rather He gets creative and says:

**5 So now I will tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will remove its hedge, and it will be consumed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled:** it's protection will be gone, and it will be destroyed,

**6 And I will lay it waste: it will not be pruned or hoed; but briars and thorns will come up and I will also command the rainclouds not to rain upon it** / weeds of every sort will take over:

**7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel** / said differently, the fresh garden of the LORD almighty... is the house of Israel (isra = ruled + El = God, the Lord says to those ruled by God, who were unfaithful, and scattered all over the world. who are from Jacob the cheat -- later named: Israel, who got carried away in their special status so God taught them a lesson about privilege and natural life in a spiritual world... by taking them captive to Assyria ([read more in Hosea](#)),

and the men of Judah his pleasant plant for He looked for justice, but only found bloodshed, for doing right but found a cry of distress / God had great hopes for these people, but they didn't learn from their northern 10 brothers... the opposite of what He hoped to find was present, so they now were getting ready for Babylon.

And six woes of judgment are pronounced:

**8 Woe / how terrible it will be to those who join house to house, and who join field to field till no place is left, and you alone live on the land!** / the LORD is talking about those who accumulate lots of dust collecting stuff for their palatial dwellings, who surround themselves with acres upon acres... able to produce every variety imaginable. They had acquired a mindset no different than any obese, gluttonous community; at the expense of: the stranger, the widow, the poor and the fatherless among them – the 4 types of people who are still oppressed in society today.

**9 The LORD of hosts declared in my hearing, Truly the great houses Israel and Judah will become desolate, even grand manors without occupants** / even the houses of the two great houses: prophet Isaiah heard the LORD loud and clear; he says imagine Beverly Hills, River Oaks or the Manhattan Plaza District... suddenly becoming a ghost town; all their effort, at the expense of others... expended to acquire stuff... will be rewarded with vacant occupancy.

# ISAIAH 5 vs 1

**10 Yes, ten acres of vineyard will yield one bath and a homer of seed will yield an ephah** / equal to 8 gallons of wine, so very unproductive; 10 acres might produce 500 gallons; yet the yield will only be a fraction; scant crops accompanied with a period of national disgrace and failure.

**11 Woe / how terrible it will be... to those who rise early in the morning, that they may pursue strong drink; who continue late in the night, till they are inflamed with wine!**

**12 The lyre, the harp, and tambourine, and pipe; and wine are at their feasts but they do not regard the work of the LORD, nor respect the deeds of His hands** / the finest, loudest entertainment at their parties; so they had a faulty worldview, disregarding the Lord though He said: [for without Me, you can do nothing](#) -- John 15.

And before going on, did you notice: they had become the ultimate EAT, DRINK and be MERRY crowd. **EAT**: verse 8-9; **DRINK**: verse 10-11; be **MERRY**: verse 12. Nothing wrong with eating: nothing wrong with drinking; nothing wrong with being merry; but if in your privilege... that is your only purpose – which is how things usually degenerate... then, they missed the point. They were blessed by God... to bless the world.

**13 Therefore My people go into captivity, because they have no knowledge, their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst** / the LORD said, [My people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge](#) -- they were no longer taught, so they no longer knew the ways of God; they forgot His law -- Hosea 4: / they will die of starvation, not refreshed with the word of God; later speaking for the LORD, Isaiah will say, [Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, and you who have no money, come buy and eat](#) -- Isaiah 55.

**14 Therefore hell / the grave has enlarged itself, and opens its mouth without limit, the massive crowds of pride and pomp, along with all the revelers, will descend into it** / hell is ready to swallow the next clueless pack parading through life, no matter their size; no one pauses to even ask, who's leading the parade down this slope? All they hear is: Party!! But that is not why the LORD planted His vineyard. Be sure: Heaven will not be populated with earth's trailer trash.

**15 And the common of Adam are humbled; the mighty are abased, and the eyes of the proud are also abased:**

**16 But the LORD of hosts will be exalted in justice; God who is holy will be wholly right.**

# ISAIAH 5 vs 1

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**17 Then will the lambs graze as usual, and among the ruin of the fat ones, will strangers eat** / they will survive; among the devastation of the wealthy ones; the foreigners whom God is sending will enjoy what the wealthy labored to create.

**18 Woe / how terrible it will be... to those who drag around crimes with cords of vanity, and sin as yoked to a cart rope:**

**19 Who sneeringly say about the Lord, Let Him make speed and hurry His work, that we may see it; and let the plan of the Holy One of Israel come near that we may know it!** / these party-goers say: God needs to move faster; the incredulous words of a cynic; the Holy One is a title used 30 times: the Savior, the Creator; they want to evaluate God's plan? They want to know what He has in mind. They sound inebriated, don't they? They're drunk on their own egos. They could open the Book and start reading if they wanted to know, right?

**20 Woe / how terrible it will be... to those who call evil good, and good evil who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!** / they are the twisted people who weep when others rejoice, and rejoice when others weep... their thinking is perverted;

**21 Woe / how terrible it will be... those who are wise in their own eyes, and clever in their own sight!**

**22 Woe / how terrible it will be... those who are mighty to drink wine and valiant to mix strong drink:** / champion wine drinkers,

**23 Who justify the wrong for a bribe, and take away the rights of those doing right/** they defend the guilty for a little money... who deprive the innocent his rights!

**24 Therefore as fire devours stubble, and flame consumes chaff, so their roots will decay, and their blossom will blow away with the dust: For they have [1] rejected the law of the LORD of hosts, and [2] despised the word of the Holy One of Israel** / This is why the LORD decided this agenda; He is the Savior, who only could pay a price that nobody else could pay in a million years. To reject His law and word is incredibly careless and suicidal. Jesus repeatedly warned His followers the last night He lived among us; [by this all will know you are My disciples](#); His students are not lawless anarchists -- [John 13-17](#).

**Judah and Israel**, their motto was **no** longer: **In God We Trust**

# ISAIAH 5 vs 1

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<sup>25</sup> For this, the anger of the LORD burns against His people, and **He has stretched out His hand against them**, and struck them: and the mountains quaked, and their carcasses lay torn in the middle of the streets. For all this His anger has not turned,

**but His hand is stretched out still** / now there are many who will cherry-pick verses and dismissively shout: That's Old Testament... as they presume to suggest these words are no longer relevant. To which I ask: Is the Lord no longer our Shepherd? Does the Lord no longer forgive all our sins; or heal all our diseases; or redeem our lives... from destruction with lovingkindness? We don't get to pick and choose the good verse and ignore the others. 5 times Isaiah uses this phrase; so, pay attention. Proverbs 6 reminds us: 6 things the Lord hates and the 7<sup>th</sup> is an abomination. Why does our heavenly Father tell us these things? He is kind; to give fair warning.

Suddenly Isaiah sees a future, final prophetic event...

<sup>26</sup> He lifts up a war flag... to the nations from afar, **He whistles to them at the end of the earth** / to some great nation far from Jerusalem: **See, they will come swiftly and speedily:**

<sup>27</sup> **Not one is weary or stumbles among them; not one slumbers or sleeps; not a belt is loose around their vital parts, not a buckle of their boot is broken** / they are a well-trained army; awake and prepared:

<sup>28</sup> **Whose missiles are sharp, and all their bows bent, their horse hoofs will be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind** / their weapons are ready, / their weapons did not look familiar to Isaiah, and what he attempts to describe are 21<sup>st</sup> century modern armaments:

<sup>29</sup> **Their roar is like a lion, they will roar like young lions: yes, they roar and seize their prey and carry it away, and none will rescue it.** / they will grab their target

<sup>30</sup> **In that day / when the LORD alone will be exalted... when He arises to terribly shake the earth they will roar against them... like the roaring of the sea:** if one looks to the land, behold darkness and sorrow, even the light is darkened in the heavens

/ did Isaiah see Armageddon? We haven't seen that Day but it's coming. God wants us sober, clear thinking and awake... as that Day approaches.