

The Gospel of John

The Passion of Christ John 12-21



John 15:1-8

1/26/20 PM

ABIDING IN THE TRUE VINE

Introduction:

I. APPRECIATING THE ACT OF PRUNING (15:1-3)

A. The Picture of Viticulture (vs. 1)

“I am the true vine”

“My Father is the vinedresser.”

Isaiah 5:1-7

B. The Pruning of a Vine (vs. 2a)

“every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away”

C. The Purpose of Pruning (vs. 2b-3)

“every branch that bears fruit, He prunes”

“so that it may bear more fruit ”

“You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.”

II. ABIDING IN ORDER TO PRODUCE (15:4-5)

A. The Provision for Productivity (vs. 4)

“Abide in Me, and I in you.”

“As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine...”

“...so neither can you unless you abide in Me.”

B. The Promise of Productivity (vs. 5)

“I am the vine, you are the branches”

“he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit”

“for apart from Me you can do nothing”

III. ABOUNDING IN ORDER TO PLEASE (15:6-8)

A. The Pain of Purging (vs. 6)

“If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up”

“they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned”

B. The Power of Prayer (vs. 7)

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you...”

“...ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.”

C. The Purpose of Producing (vs. 8)

“My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit...”

“...and so prove to be My disciples.”

Conclusion:

- 1) It is God’s purpose that every believer produce the fruit of Christlikeness.
- 2) Branches that do not bear fruit are cut off and thrown into the fire.
- 3) Branches that bear fruit are pruned so that they will bear “more fruit” and “much fruit”.
- 4) As branches in the true vine, we must abide in Christ.

“To abide in Christ is, on the one hand, to have no known sin unjudged and unconfessed, no interest into which He is not brought, no life which He cannot share. On the other hand, the abiding one takes all burdens to Him, and draws all wisdom, life, and strength from Him. It is not unceasing consciousness of these things, and of Him, but that nothing is allowed in the life which separates from Him.” *(New Scofield Reference Bible, p. 1148)*