

Isaiah 5:1-7
God's Vineyard

The Investment (1-2)

Cultivated and fertile ground (Matthew 13:3-9)

Cleared of stones (II Corinthians 6:3)

Choice vines planted (Hebrews 11 – examples of faith)

Confident of the outcome (Philippians 1:6)

The Question (3-4)

What more could have been done? (II Samuel 12:7-9 / II Peter 1:3-4)

Why did it yield bad fruit? (John 15:5)

The Result (5-6)

Wall of protection removed (Galatians 6:8)

Wasteland of uncultivated ground (Jeremiah 4:1-4)

Water withheld (John 4:10, 14; 7:38 / Revelation 22:17)

The Explanation (7)

The vineyard = the house of Israel (Deuteronomy 7:6-9; 9:4-5)

The garden = the men of Judah (Genesis 49:10 / Romans 9:4-5)

The fruit (not justice & righteousness) = blood & cries of distress (Galatians 5:19-23)

Discussion questions for Isaiah 5:1-7

What has God invested in us, that we might grow in Him? (John 3:16 / II Timothy 3:16-17 / Romans 5:1-5 / Hebrews 13:5)

How then should we live? (II Peter 1:5-9)

What leads a believer to produce bad fruit? (Galatians 3:1-4; 5:13-18)

Why will God not allow that to continue? (I Corinthians 5:4-5 / Hebrews 12:1-11)

Name several ways to identify when we are walking in the flesh instead of the Spirit?
(Galatians 5:13-15, 19-23)

Which areas do you struggle with choosing the flesh?

Isaiah 5:1-7
God's Vineyard

The Investment (1-2)

Cultivated and fertile ground (Matthew 13:3-9)

We must allow God to prepare the soil of our hearts

Cleared of stones (II Corinthians 6:3)

We are to eliminate stumbling blocks whenever possible

Choice vines planted (Hebrews 11 – examples of faith)

We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 12:1)

Confident of the outcome (Philippians 1:6)

He takes hold of us (His children) and guarantees the outcome (Eph. 1:13-14)

The Question (3-4)

What more could have been done? (II Samuel 12:7-9 / II Peter 1:3-4)

Everything has been provided by God – we must rely on Him

Why did it yield bad fruit? (John 15:5)

I cannot yield good fruit by my flesh (Romans 7:18 / Matthew 7:18-23)

The Result (5-6)

Wall of protection removed (Galatians 6:8)

When we choose the flesh – we lose God's protection

Wasteland of uncultivated ground (Jeremiah 4:1-4)

When we choose the flesh – our hearts become hardened (Eph 4:18 / I Tim. 4:2)

Water withheld (John 4:10, 14; 7:38 / Revelation 22:17)

When we choose the flesh – the water of life is not accessible to us

The Explanation (7)

The vineyard = the house of Israel (Deuteronomy 7:6-9; 9:4-5)

Chosen to bring God glory – not because of their glory (I Corinthians 1:26-29)

The garden = the men of Judah (Genesis 49:10 / Romans 9:4-5)

Chosen to lead the nation – the Seed of David (Hebrews 7:14)

The fruit (not justice & righteousness) = blood & cries of distress (Galatians 5:19-23)

Contrasting the Spirit and the flesh

Discussion questions for Isaiah 5:1-7

What has God invested in us, that we might grow in Him? (John 3:16 / II Timothy 3:16-17 / Romans 5:1-5 / Hebrews 13:5)

His life: that we might have life (John 10:10) – that He might live in us

His Word: to guide and equip us for His work (Ephesians 2:10)

His Spirit: to empower us (Ephesians 1:19-20) and to know Him (I Cor. 2:13-16 / John 15:20)

His Presence: to give us courage (Matthew 28:20) and to give us contentment (Phil. 4:10-13)

How then should we live? (II Peter 1:5-9)

We should seek to grow in Christ so that the character of Christ might be displayed in us.

Learning: to enter His rest (Hebrews 4:10-11)

Learning: to walk according to His will (Romans 12:1-2 / Philippians 2:12-13)

Learning: to love Him more as we know Him and walk in obedience to Him (John 14:15)

What leads a believer to produce bad fruit? (Galatians 3:1-4; 5:13-18)

Choosing to believe that I can change myself – that I can live righteously without the Spirit

Choosing to love myself above others – becoming selfish and critical – tearing down His body

Choosing to go my own way

Why will God not allow that to continue? (I Corinthians 5:4-5 / Hebrews 12:5-11)

Our purpose here is to build up His church (Eph. 4:12-16) and reach the lost (Mt. 28:18-20)

We do neither of these when we walk according to the flesh. Our loving Father will discipline us, and if we persist in ignoring His discipline, He will take us home (I Corinthians 3:12-15)

Name several ways to identify when we are walking in the flesh instead of the Spirit?

(Galatians 5:13-15, 19-23)

We lack any of the fruit of the Spirit.

Our attitude toward others – being critical, considering ourselves better

Our lack of desire for spiritual things – neglecting devotions, fellowship, etc.

The words that come out of our mouths (Matthew 12:33-37)

Which areas do you struggle with choosing the flesh over the Spirit?