



“FOREIGN OR FRUITFUL”?

JOHN 15:1-8 BIBLE STUDY

DANNY SCOTTON, JR





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- I am the Vine – the True [Vine] –
and my Father is the Vinedresser.
(Jn 15:1, AT)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- 13 Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”
- 14 God said to Moses, “**I AM WHO I AM** [LXX: **ἐγώ εἰμι ὁ ὢν**]. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘**I AM** has sent me to you.’ ” (Ex 3:13-14, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘**The LORD [YHWH]**, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’

“This is my **name** forever,
the **name** you shall call me
from generation to generation. (Ex 3:15, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- 56 **Your father Abraham** rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.”
- 57 “You are not yet fifty years old,” they said to him, “and you have seen Abraham!”
- 58 “Very truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “**before** Abraham was born, **I am** [ἐγώ εἰμι]!” 59 At this, they **picked up stones to stone him**, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.
(Jn 8:56-59, NIV)



JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- “We are **not** stoning you **for any good work**,” they replied, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, **claim to be God.**” (Jn 10:33, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- Then Jesus declared, “**I am** [ἐγώ εἰμι] **the bread of life**. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. (Jn 6:35, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “**I am** [ἐγώ εἰμι] **the light of the world.** Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (Jn 8:12; cf. Jn 9:5)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- Therefore, Jesus again said, "Amen, Amen, I say to you that **I am** [ἐγώ εἰμι] **the door** for the sheep.
(Jn 10:7, AT; cf. Jn 10:9)



JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- **I am the Shepherd – the Good One.**

The Shepherd – the Good One –

lays down His life for the sheep.

(Jn 10:11, AT)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- Jesus said to her [Martha], “**I am** [ἐγώ εἰμι] **the resurrection and the life.**

The one who believes in me will live,
even though they die; (Jn 11:25, NIV)



JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



- Jesus says to him [Thomas], "**I am** [ἐγώ εἰμι] **the way and the truth and the life**. No one comes to the Father **except through Me.**" (Jn 14:6, AT)



JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE TRUE VINE



• “**I am** [ἐγώ εἰμι] **the Vine** – **the True**
[ἀληθινός | *alēthinos*] **[Vine]** – and
my Father is the Vinedresser. (Jn 15:1,
AT; cf. Jn15:5)



JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE VINE*



- 8 You transplanted a **vine** from Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
- 9 You cleared the ground for it,
and it took root and filled the land.
- 10 The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its **branches**.
- 11 Its **branches** reached as far as the Sea,
its shoots as far as the River. (Ps 80:8-11, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE* VINE



12 Why have you broken down its walls
so that all who pass by pick its **grapes**?

13 Boars from the forest ravage it,
and insects from the fields feed on it.

14 Return to us, God Almighty!
Look down from heaven and see!

15 Watch over this **vine**,
the **root** your right hand has planted,
the son you have raised up for yourself. (Ps 80:12-15, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE VINE*



Your **vine** is cut down,
it is burned with fire; at your rebuke
your people perish.

(Ps 80:16, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE* VINE



I had planted you like a **choice** [LXX:
ἀληθινός | *alēthinos*] **vine** of sound and
reliable stock. How then did you **turn**
against me into a **corrupt, wild vine**?
(Jer 2:21, NIV)



JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE VINE*



- 1 I will sing for the one I love
a song about his **vineyard**:
My loved one had a **vineyard**
on a fertile hillside.
- 2 He dug it up and cleared it of stones
and planted it with the **choicest vines**.
He built a **watchtower** in it
and cut out a **winepress** as well.
Then he looked for a crop of good grapes,
but it **yielded only bad fruit**. (Is 5:1-2, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE* VINE



3 “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and **my vineyard**.

4 What more could have been done for **my vineyard**
than I have done for it?

When I looked for **good grapes**,
why did it **yield only bad**? (Is 5:3-4, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE VINE*



5 Now I will tell you

what I am going to do to **my vineyard**:

I will take away its hedge,

and it will be destroyed;

I will break down its wall,

and it will be trampled.

6 I will make it a wasteland,

neither pruned nor cultivated,

and briars and thorns will grow there.

I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” (Is 5:5-6, NIV)





JOHN 15:1
JESUS: I AM
THE *TRUE* VINE



7 The **vineyard** of the LORD [YHWH] Almighty
is **the nation of Israel**,
and the **people of Judah**
are the **vines** he delighted in.

And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed;

for righteousness, but heard cries of distress. (Is 5:7, NIV)





JOHN 15:2
DISPOSING OF THE DEAD,
PRUNING FOR PRODUCTIVITY



- Every branch in Me that does not produce fruit He takes away. And every [branch] that does produce fruit, He prunes to clean so that it will produce more. (Jn 15:2, AT)





JOHN 15:2
BEARING
FAITHFUL FRUIT

- “If you **love** me, **keep my commands**. (Jn 14:15, NIV)
- 23 Jesus replied, “Anyone who **loves** me will **obey my teaching**. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and **make our home** [μένω | *menō*] with them.
- 24 Anyone who **does not love me** will **not obey my teaching**. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. (Jn 14:23-24, NIV)





JOHN 15:2
BEARING
FAITHFUL FRUIT



- If you **keep my commands**, you will **remain** [μένω | *menō*] **in my love**, just as I have **kept my Father's commands** and **remain** [μένω | *menō*] in his love. (Jn 15:10, NIV; cf. Jn 15:14)





JOHN 15:2
BEARING
FAITHFUL FRUIT



- In fact, this is **love** for God: to **keep his commands**. And his commands are not burdensome (1 Jn 5:3, NIV)





JOHN 15:3
CLEANSING
WORD



- Already, you are clean on account of the word I have spoken to you.
(Jn 15:3, AT)





JOHN 15:4
SPIRITUALLY
CONNECTED TO CHRIST



- Remain in Me and I [will] in you. Just as the branch is unable to produce fruit by itself if it does not remain in the vine, in the same way, neither [are] you if you do not remain in Me. (Jn 15:4, AT)





JOHN 15:4
SPIRITUALLY
CONNECTED TO CHRIST



- The Word became flesh and **made his dwelling among us**. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (Jn 1:14, NIV)





JOHN 15:4
SPIRITUALLY
CONNECTED TO CHRIST



- 17 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 17 **the Spirit of truth**. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he **lives with you** [μένω | *menō*] and will be **in** you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (Jn 14:16-18, NIV)





JOHN 15:4
SPIRITUALLY
CONNECTED TO CHRIST



- Don't you know that **you yourselves are God's temple** and that God's Spirit **dwells in your midst?** (1 Cor 3:16, NIV)





JOHN 15:4
SPIRITUALLY
CONNECTED TO CHRIST



- 18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. 19 Do you not know that **your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit**, who is **in** you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. (1 Cor 6:18-20, NIV)





JOHN 15:4
SPIRITUALLY
CONNECTED TO CHRIST



- Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you **remain** [μένω | *menō*] in my word, truly you are my disciples. (Jn 8:31, AT)





JOHN 15:5
NEED THE ROOT
TO BEAR THE FRUIT



- I am the Vine, you are the branches. The one who remains [μένω | *menō*] in Me – and I in them – this person produces much fruit because without me you are unable to do anything. (Jn 15:5, AT)





JOHN 15:5
NEED THE ROOT
TO BEAR THE FRUIT



- Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD [YHWH] God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and **they hid from the LORD [YHWH] God** among the trees of the garden. (Gen 3:8, NIV)



JOHN 15:6
FUEL FOR
THE (ETERNAL) FIRE



- If anyone does not remain [μένω | *menō*] in Me, they are thrown outside like a branch and are dried up. And [people] gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned up. (Jn 15:6, AT)





JOHN 15:6
FUEL FOR
THE (ETERNAL) FIRE



- If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, **cut it off** and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into **eternal fire**. (Mt 18:8, NIV)





JOHN 15:6
FUEL FOR
THE (ETERNAL) FIRE



- Whoever **believes** in him is **not condemned**, but whoever does **not believe** stands **condemned already** because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. (Jn 3:18, NIV)





JOHN 15:6
ONCE *TRULY* SAVED,
ALWAYS *TRULY* SAVED



- The **Spirit clearly says** that in later times some will **abandon the faith** and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2 Such teachings come through **hypocritical** [ὑπόκρισις | *hypokrisis*] liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. (1 Tim 4:1-2, NIV)





JOHN 15:6
ONCE *TRULY* SAVED,
ALWAYS *TRULY* SAVED



- They went out from us, but they **did not really belong to us**. For if they had belonged to us, they would have **remained** [μένω | *menō*] with us; but their **going showed that none of them belonged** to us. (1 Jn 2:19, NIV)





JOHN 15:7
EFFECTIVE PRAYER:
FRUIT OF THE VINE



- If you remain [μένω | *menō*] in Me and my words remain [μένω | *menō*] in you, ask for whatever you desire, and it will be done for you. (Jn 15:7, AT)





JOHN 15:7
EFFECTIVE PRAYER:
FRUIT OF THE VINE



If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction,
even their **prayers are detestable**.

(Pr 28:9, NIV)

The LORD is **far** from the **wicked**,
but he **hears** the prayer of the **righteous**.

(Pr 15:29, NIV)





JOHN 15:7
EFFECTIVE PRAYER:
FRUIT OF THE VINE



13 And I will do whatever you ask **in my name**, so that the Father may be **glorified** in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything **in my name**, and I will do it. (Jn 14:13-14, NIV)





JOHN 15:8
TO GOD
BE THE GLORY!



- In this, my Father is glorified: that you may bear much fruit and prove to be my disciples. (Jn 15:8, AT)

