



“I Am the True Vine”

*John 15:1-12*

## John 15:1-11 – Seven Takeaways From the Vine:

1. Jesus is the real Israel (v1)

“I am the true vine, and my Father  
is the gardener.

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I am the true **vine**, and my Father is the gardener (Jhn. 15:1)

I will sing about the one I love, a song about my loved one's **vineyard**: The one I love had a **vineyard** on a very fertile hill. (Isa. 5:1ff)

<sup>2</sup> On that day, sing about a desirable **vineyard**: <sup>3</sup> I am YHWH, who watches over it to water it regularly. So that no one disturbs it, I watch over it night and day. (Isa. 27:2-3ff)

<sup>8</sup> You dug up a **vine** from Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. <sup>9</sup> You cleared a place for it; it took root and filled the land. (Ps. 80:8-9ff)

cf. Jer. 6:9; 12:10-13; Ezk. 15:1-8; 17:5-10; 19:10-14; Hos. 10:1-2; 14:7

(over the doors of the temple) was spread a golden vine, with its branches hanging down from a great height, the largeness and fine workmanship of which was a surprising sight to the spectators, to see what materials there were, and with what great skill the workmanship was done.

- Josephus, *Antiquities* (15.11.3)





I am the true **vine**, and my Father is the gardener (Jhn. 15:1)

<sup>1</sup> I will sing about the one I love, a song about my loved one's **vineyard**: The one I love had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup> He broke up the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted it with the finest vines. He built a tower in the middle of it and even dug out a winepress there. **He expected it to yield good grapes, but it yielded worthless grapes (*lit.* 'stink fruit')**. (Isa. 5:1-2)

cf. Hos. 10:1-2; Jer. 2:21

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener (John 15:1)

<sup>21</sup> I planted you, a choice vine from the very best seed.

How then could you turn into a degenerate, foreign vine?

(Jeremiah 2:21 CSB)

I am the true (ἀληθινός)

Vine (ἄμπελος), and my Father is the  
gardener (John 15:1)

<sup>21</sup> I planted you, a true (ἀληθινός)  
vine (ἄμπελος) (LXX)

from the very best seed.

How then could you turn into  
a degenerate, foreign vine?

(Jeremiah 2:21)

<sup>14</sup> Return, God of Armies.

Look down from heaven and see;  
take care of this vine,

<sup>15</sup> the root your right hand  
planted,

the son that you made strong for  
yourself.

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

“I am the true vine, and my Father  
is the gardener.”

## John 15:1-11 – Seven Takeaways From the Vine:

1. Jesus is the real Israel (v1)
2. God prunes us to bear more fruit (v2)



<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and **my Father is the gardener.** <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not produce fruit he removes, and he prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit.

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John 15:1-2 cf. Luke 8:18; Rom. 5:3-5; Heb. 12:6, 10-11; Jam. 1:2-4

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1. Jesus is the real Israel (v1)
2. God prunes us to bear more fruit (v2)
3. Jesus cleanses us by His word (v3)

<sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not produce fruit he removes, and he **prunes** every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You are already **clean** because of the word I have spoken to you.

<sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not produce fruit he removes, and he **prunes καθαίρω** every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You are already **clean καθαρός** because of the word I have spoken to you.

<sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.” <sup>10</sup> “One who has bathed,” Jesus told him, “doesn’t need to wash anything except his feet, but he is completely clean καθαρός. You are clean καθαρός, but not all of you.” <sup>11</sup> For he knew who would betray him. This is why he said, “Not all of you are clean καθαρός.”

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John 15:2-3 cf. 13:9-11; 4:41; 10:19; 17:20

24 “Truly I tell you, anyone who hears **my word** and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.

## John 15:1-11 – Seven Takeaways From the Vine:

1. Jesus is the real Israel (v1)
2. God prunes us to bear more fruit (v2)
3. Jesus cleanses us by His word (v3)
4. We can only bear fruit in Christ (vv4-5)

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.  
<sup>2</sup> Every branch **in me** that does not produce fruit he removes, and he prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.  
<sup>4</sup> Remain **in me**, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you unless you remain **in me**. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains **in me** and **I in him** produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not remain **in me**, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers. They gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

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<sup>13</sup> This is how we know that  
we remain in him and he in us:  
He has given us of his Spirit.

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4. We can only bear fruit in Christ (vv4-5)
5. Ask and you will receive (vv7-8)

<sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be my disciples.

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John 15:7-8 cf. Matt. 6:9-10; 7:7-11; Jam. 4:1-3; 1 Jhn. 5:14-15

<sup>1</sup> What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup> You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

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6. Love produces obedience (vv9-10)

<sup>9</sup> “As the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.

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<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, “I love God,” and yet hates his brother or sister, he is a liar. For the person who does not love his brother or sister whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And we have this command from him: The one who loves God must also love his brother and sister.



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7. Abiding entails enjoying and experiencing the very joy of Jesus by loving others (vv11-12)

<sup>11</sup> “I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> “This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you.

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<sup>20</sup> For when you were slaves of sin, you were free with regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> So what **fruit** was produced then from the things you are now ashamed of? The outcome of those things is death. <sup>22</sup> But now, since you have been set free from sin and have become enslaved to God, you have your **fruit**, which results in sanctification—and the outcome is eternal life! <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:20-23

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