

•Jesus, on the way to Gethsemane, shares the 7th "I AM' statement and expresses expectations of...?

•How does Jesus' words reflect on old testament Imagery? Especially from Isaiah? Think "vines".

•Since the Industrial revolution, **many Americans have lost any/all sense of agricultural knowledge**, which often has lessons for life. Do you know what pruning is? How does God get more fruit from us?

•The Old testament also has some other illustrative warnings for gardens in the Old testament, remember any?

•I don't mean to be "sappy" but What does it mean to abide in Christ?

•Jesus expresses a growing expectation of His disciples and the fruit they will bear, what are the 3 measures?

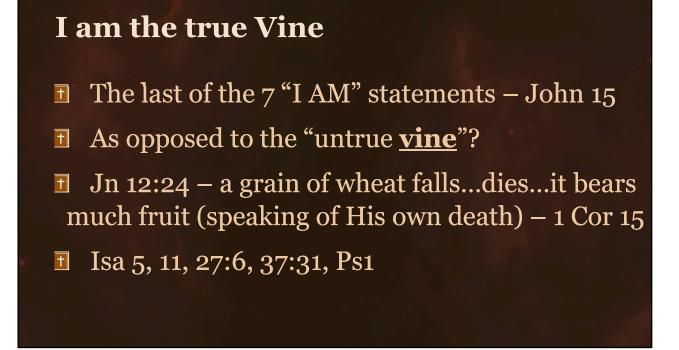
•What kind of fruit is Jesus speaking of, that He expects from the disciples? Why is John fascinated with Joy?

•How can Jesus call us to "joy" as he's heading to the Cross in hours

•15:9-10 tell us to stay in Jesus' love, 15:17 He commands us to love each other, 15:18 He informs us the world will hate us! How does this enlighten your perspective?

•One of the greatest challenges many Christians' face today is wanting everyone to like/love them! do you embrace the reality that some people will hate you! Especially when you stand with Jesus?!

•What are the life sapping things in your life that steal your spiritual fruitfulness?



This discussion Jesus is having with His disciples is on the way to the Garden of Gethsemane, don't let your hearts be troubled and BE FRUITFUL! Are seeds dead and hhhow long can they be dormant and still come alive?

Jhn 12:24 "Truly, truly I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

[Isa 11:1-10, 12 NASB20] 1 Then **a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse**, And **a Branch from his roots will bear fruit**. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. 3 And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make decisions by what His ears hear; 4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the humble of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. 5 Also righteousness will be the belt [around] His hips, And faithfulness the belt [around] His waist. 6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, And the leopard will lie down with the young goat, And the calf and the young lion and the fattened steer [will be] together; And a little boy will lead them. 7 Also the cow and the bear will graze, Their young will lie down together, And the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, And the weaned

child will put his hand on the viper's den. 9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. 10 **Then on that day The nations will resort to the root of Jesse**, **Who will stand as a signal flag for the peoples; And His resting place will be glorious**. ... 12 And He will lift up a flag for the nations And assemble the banished ones of Israel, And will gather the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth.

[Isa 27:6 NASB20] 6 In the days to come Jacob will take root, Israel will blossom and sprout, And they will fill the whole world with fruit.

[Isa 37:31 NASB20] 31 "<u>The survivors that are left of the house of Judah will again</u> [take] root downward and bear fruit upward.

[Isa 11:10 NASB20] 10 Then on that day The nations will resort to the root of Jesse, Who will stand as a signal flag for the peoples; And His resting place will be glorious.

[Isa 53:2 NASB20] 2 For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of dry ground; He has no [stately] form or majesty That we would look at Him, Nor an appearance that we would take pleasure in Him.

John 12.24 reads, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit" (John 12.24 KJV bible). Critics use verses such as John 12.24 to try to discredit the bible. They use John 12.24 to suggest that the bible contradicts science and fact. In their opinion, John 12.24 is an ignorant statement about the life of a seed.

A lot of the confusion about John 12.24 comes from the language used to describe seeds. Nowadays when we talk about seeds being alive or dead we are referring to their viability. A viable seed has the potential to sprout and grow, whereas a nonviable seed does not. A viable seed is alive, and a nonviable seed is dead.

So the description of a seed dying before it grows sounds strange to us. If the seed sprouts and grows we think of it as being alive or coming to life. We don't associate a sprouting seed with death. A rotting seed is dead, but a sprouting seed is very much alive.

[Lev 26:16 NASB20] 16 I, in turn, will do this to you: I will summon a sudden terror against you, consumption and fever that will make the eyes fail and the soul languish; also, you will sow your seed uselessly, for your enemies will eat it.

[Deu 28:38 NASB20] 38 "You will bring out a great amount of seed to the field, but you will gather in little, because the locust will devour it.

[Psa 126:6 NASB20] 6 One who goes here and there weeping, carrying [his] bag of seed, Shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his sheaves [with him.]

[Ecc 11:6 NASB20] 6 Sow your seed in the morning and do not be idle in the evening, for you do not know whether one or the other will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.

[Isa 28:24 NASB20] 24 Does the farmer plow continually to plant seed? Does he

[continually] turn and break up his ground?

[Isa 30:23 NASB20] 23 Then He will give [you] rain for your seed which you will sow in the ground, and bread [from] the yield of the ground, and it will be rich and plentiful; on that day your livestock will graze in a wide pasture.

[Isa 55:10 NASB20] 10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it produce and sprout, And providing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;

[Jer 2:21 NASB20] 21 "Yet I planted you as a choice vine, A completely faithful seed. How then have you turned yourself before Me Into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine? [Jer 31:27 NASB20] 27 "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of mankind and the seed of animals.

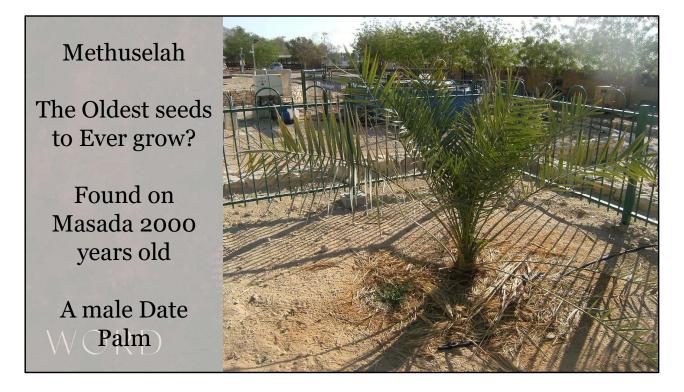
[Eze 17:5 NASB20] 5 "He also took from the seed of the land and planted it in fertile soil, a meadow beside abundant waters; he set it [like] a willow.

[Amo 9:13 NASB20] 13 "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "When the plowman will overtake the reaper, And the one who treads grapes [will overtake] him who sows the seed; When the mountains will drip grape juice, And all the hills will come apart.

[Hag 2:19 NASB20] 19 'Is the seed still in the barn? Even including the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree, it has not produced [fruit. Yet] from this day [on] I will bless [you.]'"

[Mat 13:19-20, 22-24 NASB20] 19 "When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand [it,] the evil [one] comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one sown [with seed] beside the road. 20 "The one sown [with seed] on the rocky places, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ... 22 "And the one sown [with seed] among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, and the anxiety of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. 23 "But the one sown [with seed] on the good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces, some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty [times as much.]" 24 Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

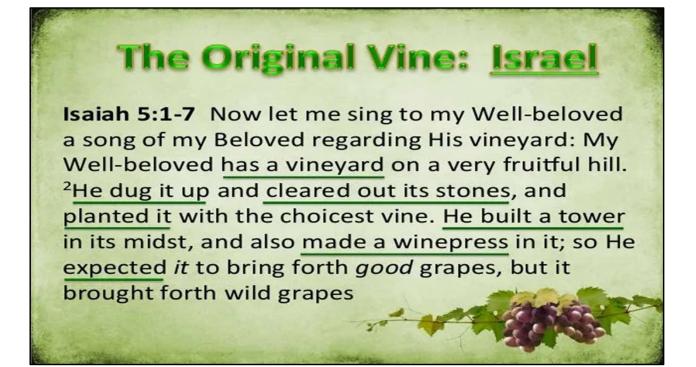
[Mat 17:20 NASB20] 20 And He said to them, "Because of your meager faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."



During 1963–1965, excavations at <u>Herod the Great</u>'s palace on <u>Masada</u>, <u>Israel</u>, revealed a cache of date palm seeds preserved in an ancient jar. They had experienced a very dry and sheltered environment for millennia. <u>Radiocarbon dating</u> at the <u>University of</u> <u>Zurich</u> confirmed the seeds dated from between **155 BC to 64 AD**. The seeds were held in storage for 40 years at <u>Bar-Ilan University</u>, <u>Ramat Gan</u>.^{[10][11]}

By June 2008, the tree had nearly a dozen <u>fronds</u> and was nearly 1.4 metres (**4 ft 7 in**) tall.^[16] Methuselah flowered in March 2011 and is male.^[17] By November 2011 it was 2.5 metres (**8 ft 2 in**) high, having been transplanted from pot to earth.^[18] By May 2015, the palm was 3.0 metres (**9.8 ft**) tall and was producing pollen.^[19] As of February 2020, <u>Methuselah</u> had reached 3.5 metres (<u>11 ft</u>).^[20]





Isa 5:1-7 Let me sing now for my beloved A song of my beloved about His vineyard. My beloved had a vineyard on a fertile hill. 2 He dug it all around, cleared it of stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. And He built a tower in the middle of it, And also carved out a wine vat in it; Then He expected [it] to produce [good] grapes, But it produced [only] worthless ones. 3 "And now, you inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, Judge between Me and My vineyard. 4 "What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why, [when] I expected [it] to produce [good] grapes did it produce worthless ones? 5 "So now let Me tell you what I am going to do to My vineyard: I will remove its hedge and it will be consumed; I will break down its wall and it will become trampled ground. 6 "I will lay it waste; It will not be pruned nor hoed, But briars and thorns will come up. I will also command the clouds not to rain on it." 7 For the vineyard of the LORD of armies is the house of Israel, And the people of Judah are His delightful plant. So He waited for justice, but behold, [there was] bloodshed; For righteousness, but behold, a cry for help.

[Jer 2:21 NASB20] 21 "Yet I planted you as a choice vine, A completely faithful seed. How then have you turned yourself before Me Into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine?

A Song about my beloved!! God sings the blues!

His vineyard. He owns us, made us, bought us, redeemed us! A very fruitful hill. Fertile Soil. A good start He dug it up. He broke the ice, prepared the way Cleared out the stones. Removed difficulties Planted it with choicest vine. Gave us His best! Moses and promised land Built a tower. Watched over them Made a winepress. Expected results Expected good grapes. Heb.6 [Heb 6:7 NASB20] 7 For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and produces vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God;

Wild grapes! **Worthless ones! Stinking! poison** Sour grapes! [Heb 6:9 NASB20] 9 But, beloved, we are convinced of better things regarding you, and things that accompany salvation, even though we are speaking in this way.

Jer 31:29-30 NASB20] 29 "In those days they will no longer say, <u>'The fathers have</u> eaten sour grapes, But [it is] the children's teeth [that] have become blunt.' 30 "But everyone will die for his own wrongdoing; each person who eats the sour grapes, his [own] teeth will become blunt.

[Eze 18:2 NASB20] 2 "What do you [people] mean by using this proverb about the land of Israel, saying, 'The fathers eat sour grapes, But [it is] the children's teeth [that] have become blunt'?

We are not victims and/or suffering generational sin! God deals with us individually and accordingly! Quit blaming your parents!

Num 13:20, 23-24, 26-27 "And how is the land, is it productive or unproductive? Are there trees in it or not? And show yourselves courageous and get some of the fruit of the land." Now the time was the season of the first ripe grapes. ... 23 Then they came to the Valley of Eshcol, and from there they cut off a branch with a single cluster of grapes; and they carried it on a pole between two [men,] with some of the pomegranates and the figs. 24 That place was called the Valley of Eshcol, because of the cluster which the sons of Israel cut off from there. ... 26 they went on and came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, in the wilderness of Paran at Kadesh; and they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. 27 So they reported to him and said, "We came into the land where you sent us, and it certainly does flow with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.

Jesus used illustrations of a variety of agricultural results, "fruit" Wheat Vineyards/grapes Figs Palms

What kind of fruit, does He seek?

- Fruit of reproduction Gen 9:1, Mal 2:15
- Repentance/regeneration Mt 3:8, 7:17-19, 12:33
- Righteousness Phl 1:11, Heb 12:11, Ja 3:18
- Lost souls saved Ja 5:17-20, Prov 11:30

[Gen 8:17 "Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you, birds and animals and every crawling thing that crawls on the earth, that they may breed abundantly on the earth, and **be fruitful and multiply on the earth**."

[Gen 9:1, 7 NASB20] 1 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth**. ... 7 "As for you, be fruitful and multiply; Populate the earth abundantly and multiply in it."

[Mal 2:15 But not one has done [so] who has a remnant of the Spirit. And why the one? **He was seeking a godly offspring**. Be careful then about your spirit, and [see that] none [of you] deals treacherously against the wife of your youth.

[Mat 3:8, 10 NASB20] 8 "Therefore produce fruit consistent with repentance; ... 10 "And the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore, **every tree that does not bear good fruit is being cut down and thrown into the fire**.

[Mat 7:17-19 NASB20] 17 "So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

[Mat 12:33 NASB20] 33 "Either assume the tree [to be] good as well as its fruit good, or assume the tree [to be] bad as well as its fruit bad; <u>for the tree is known by its fruit</u>. [Mat 13:23 NASB20] 23 "But the one sown [with seed] on the good soil, this is **the one**

who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces, some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty [times as much.]"

[Mat 21:19, 43 NASB20] 19 And seeing a lone fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves alone; and He said to it, "No longer shall there ever be [any] fruit from you." And at once the fig tree withered. ... 43 "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruit.

[Isa 45:8 NASB20] 8 "Drip down, heavens, from above, And let the clouds pour down righteousness; Let the earth open up **and salvation bear fruit, And righteousness sprout with it**. I, the LORD, have created it.

[Eph 5:9 NASB20] 9 (for **the fruit of the light [consists] in all goodness**, **righteousness**, and truth),

[Phl 1:11 NASB20] 11 having been filled with **the fruit of righteousness** which [comes] through Jesus Christ, for the glory and praise of God.

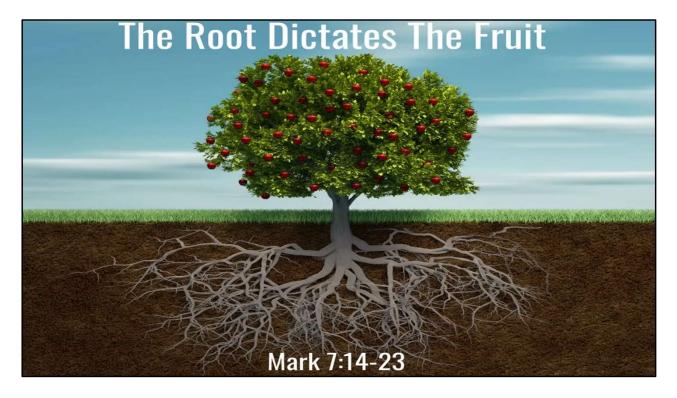
[Heb 12:11 NASB20] 11 For the moment, all discipline seems not to be pleasant, but painful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterward it yields **the peaceful fruit of righteousness**.

[Jas 3:18 NASB20] 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

[Jas 5:17-20 NASB20] 17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. 18 Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit. 19 My brothers [and sisters,] if anyone among you strays from the truth and someone turns him back, 20 let him know that the one who has turned a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

[Pro 11:30 NASB20] 30 **The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And one who is wise gains souls**.

[Dan 12:3 NASB20] 3 "And those who have insight will shine like the glow of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.



[Mar 7:14-23 NASB20] 14 After He called the crowd to Him again, He [began] saying to them, "Listen to Me, all of you, and understand: 15 there is nothing outside the person which can defile him if it goes into him; but the things which come out of the person are what defile the person." 16 17 And when He [later] entered a house, away from the crowd, His disciples asked Him about the parable. 18 And He said to them, "Are you so lacking in understanding as well? Do you not understand that whatever goes into the person from outside cannot defile him, 19 because it does not go into his heart, but into his stomach, and is eliminated?" ([Thereby] He declared all foods clean.) 20 And He was saying, "That which comes out of the person, that [is what] defiles the person. 21 "For from within, out of the hearts of people, come the evil thoughts, [acts of] sexual immorality, thefts, murders, [acts of] adultery, 22 deeds of greed, wickedness, deceit, indecent behavior, envy, slander, pride, [and] foolishness. 23 "All these evil things come from within and defile the person."

[Mat 3:8, 10 NASB20] 8 "Therefore produce **fruit consistent with repentance**; ... 10 "And the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit is being cut down and thrown into the fire. [Mat 7:17-19 "<u>So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad</u> <u>fruit.</u> 18 "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 "<u>Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.</u> [Mat 12:33 NASB20] 33 "Either assume the tree [to be] good as well as its fruit good, or assume the tree [to be] bad as well as its fruit bad; <u>for the tree is known by its fruit</u>. [Mat 13:23 NASB20] 23 "But the one sown [with seed] on the good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces, some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty [times as much.]"

What kind of fruit, It's SUPER Natural?

- Fruit of Lips that Praise Him! Heb 13:15, Ja 3
- ∃ Fruit in every good work Col 1:5-6, 10
- Fruit of character, a new heart and affections and mood – Gal 5:22-26 – Against such is NO law!
- The proof of the In<u>dwell</u>ing Spirit! Get Drunk!

What does He anticipate?

Rom 7:4 Therefore, my brothers [and sisters,] you also were put to death in regard to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might belong to another, to Him <u>who</u> <u>was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God.</u>

[Rom 15:28 NASB20] 28 Therefore, when I have finished this, and **have put my seal on this fruit of theirs**, I will go on by way of you to Spain.

[Heb 13:15 NASB20] 15 <u>Through Him then, let's continually offer up a sacrifice of</u> praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips praising His name.

[Jas 3:10-13, 17-18 NASB20] 10 from the same mouth come [both] blessing and cursing. My brothers [and sisters,] these things should not be this way. 11 Does a spring send out from the same opening [both] fresh and bitter [water?] 12 <u>Can a fig</u> tree, my brothers [and sisters,] bear olives, or a vine [bear] figs? Nor [can] salt water produce fresh. 13 Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. ... 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peace-loving, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, free of hypocrisy. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

[1Co 1:31 NASB20] 31 so that, just as it is written: "LET THE ONE WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD."

[Jer 9:23-24 NASB20] 23 This is what the LORD says: "Let no wise man boast of his wisdom, nor let the mighty man boast of his might, nor a rich man boast of his riches; 24 but let the one who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises mercy, justice, and righteousness on the earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.

[2Co 10:17 NASB20] 17 But THE ONE WHO BOASTS IS TO BOAST IN THE LORD. [Gal 6:14 NASB20] 14 But far be it from me to boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

[Gal 5:22-26 NASB20] 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit as well. 26 Let's not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

Pauls Law/Murphys Law. [Rom 7:14-25 NASB20] 14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, sold into bondage to sin. 15 For I do not understand what I am doing; for I am not practicing what I want [to do,] but I do the very thing I hate. 16 However, if I do the very thing I do not want [to do,] I agree with the Law, that [the Law is] good. 17 But now, no longer am I [the one] doing it, but sin that dwells in me. 18 For I know that good does not dwell in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good [is] not. 19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. 20 But if I do the very thing I do not want, I am no longer [the one] doing it, but sin that dwells in me. 21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22 For I joyfully agree with the law of God in the inner person, 23 but I see a different law in the parts of my body waging war against the law of my mind, and making me a prisoner of the law of sin, [the law] which is in my body's parts. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

[Eph 5:18-20 NASB20] 18 And do not get drunk with wine, in which there is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord; 20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to [our] God and Father;

Its SUPER Natural!@

[Act 2:1, 11-13 NASB20] 1 When <u>the day of Pentecost</u> had come, they were all together in one place. ... 11 Cretans and Arabs--we hear them speaking in our [own] tongues of

<u>the mighty deeds of God</u>." 12 And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "<u>What does this mean?</u>" 13 But others were jeering and saying, "<u>They are full of sweet wine!"</u>

Jde 1:12 NASB20] 12 <u>These are the ones who are hidden reefs in your love feasts</u> when they feast with you without fear, [like shepherds] caring [only] for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted;



9 fruit, singular

WORKS of the Flesh

[Gal 5:14-21 ESV] 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

That your joy may be made full

- John wants us to know Joy!
- Joy over grief...full...that remains
- I Jn 15:11, 16:20-22, 24, 17:13, 1Jn 1:4
- "enter the joy of your master" Mt 25:21,23

Joy is superior to Happiness

[<u>Heb 12:2</u> NASB20] 2 looking only at Jesus, the originator and perfecter of the faith, <u>who for the joy set before Him endured the cross</u>, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

[Jhn 3:29 NASB20] 29 "He who has the bride is the groom; but the friend of the groom, who stands and listens to him, rejoices greatly because of the groom's voice. **So this joy of mine has been made full**.

[Jhn 15:11 NASB20] 11 "These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and [that] your joy may be made full.

[Jhn 16:20-22, 24 NASB20] 20 "Truly, truly I say to you that you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, **but your grief will be turned into joy**! 21 "Whenever a woman is in labor she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has been born into the world. 22 "Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and **no one [is going to] take your joy away from you**. ... 24 "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, **so that your joy may be made full**.

[Jhn 17:13 NASB20] 13 "But now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world so **that they may have My joy made full in themselves**.

[1Jo 1:4 NASB20] 4 These things we write, **so that our joy may be made complete**. [2Jo 1:12 NASB20] 12 Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to [do so] with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, **so that your joy may be made complete**.

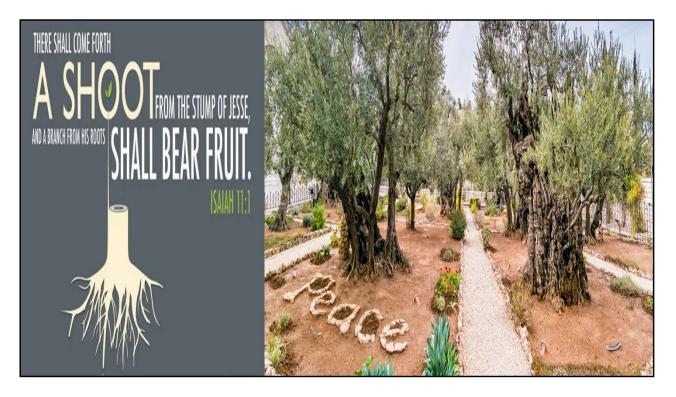
[3Jo 1:4 NASB20] **4 I have no greater joy than this**, to hear of my children walking in the truth.

[Mat 25:21, 23 NASB20] 21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; **enter the joy of your master**.' ... 23 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; **enter the joy of your master**.'



Deeper the root, sweeter the fruit

Roots run deep! Can even block/clog sewage pipes!



Isa 11:10 Then on that day The nations will resort to the root of Jesse, Who will stand as a signal flag for the peoples; And His resting place will be glorious.

2000 year old Olive trees, 8 of them in Gethsemane

The Gardener!

Lifts up – more light, less dirt, bruises, bites
 Prunes – "He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit." – Jn 15:2, Heb 12:1, "Shear" pain
 Protects: Snakes, foxes, worms... – SoS 2:15

3x **"Fruit**", **much** fruit, **lasting** fruit/full!

Fruit was the ONLY Sweet dessert of the Bible, or even until modern times, only 200 yrs.! 1828. Hershey in USA 1900 Fruit is usually sweet, colorful and nurturing https://www.history.com/news/the-sweet-history-of-chocolate

God doesn't lift us up for our exaltation but so we can be more fruitful

Jesus is the Gardener! Adam failed as the 1st Adam and 1st Gardener, Jesus has a better vine, fruitfulness.

[Isa 53:10-11 NASB20] 10 But the LORD desired To crush Him, causing [Him] grief; If He renders Himself [as] a guilt offering, <u>He will see [His] offspring</u>, He will prolong [His] days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand. <u>11 As a result</u> of the anguish of His soul, He will see [it and] be satisfied; By His knowledge the <u>Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many</u>, For He will bear their wrongdoings.

Lifts up AND Ties off for support and alignment

<u>Jn.15:2, 5, 8, 11, 16</u>

[Jhn 15:2, 5, 8 NASB20] 2 "Every branch in Me that **does not bear fruit**, He takes away;

and every [branch] that **bears fruit**, He **prunes it so that it may bear <u>more fruit</u>**. ... 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears <u>much</u> <u>fruit</u>, for **apart from Me you can do nothing**. ... 8 "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear <u>much fruit</u>, and [so] prove to be My disciples.

[Jhn 15:11 NASB20] 11 "These things I have spoken to you **so that My joy may be in you, and [that] your joy may be made** <u>full</u>.

[Jhn 15:16 NASB20] 16 "You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and **bear fruit, and [that] your fruit would remain**, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

Worms, foxes and snakes in the garden

[Deu 28:39 NASB20] 39 "You will plant and cultivate vineyards, <u>but you will neither</u> <u>drink of the wine nor bring in [the harvest,] because the worm will eat it</u>.

[Job 25:6 NASB20] 6 How much less man, [that] maggot, And a son of man, [that] worm!" [Psa 22:6 NASB20] 6 But I am a worm and not a person, A disgrace of mankind and despised by the people.

[Isa 41:14 NASB20] 14 "Do not fear, you worm Jacob, you people of Israel; I will help you," declares the LORD, "and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.

[Isa 66:24 NASB20] 24 "Then they will go out and look At the corpses of the people Who have rebelled against Me. For their worm will not die And their fire will not be extinguished; And they will be an abhorrence to all mankind."

[Jon 4:7 NASB20] 7 But God designated a worm when dawn came the next day, and it attacked the plant and it withered.

[Mar 9:48 NASB20] 48 where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT EXTINGUISHED.

[Sng 2:15 NASB20] 15 The Chorus "<u>Catch the foxes for us, The little foxes that are</u> <u>ruining the vineyards, While our vineyards are in blossom</u>."

[Luk 10:19 NASB20] 19 "Behold, I have given you authority to walk on snakes and scorpions, and [authority] over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you. [Rom 16:20 NASB20] 20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

Heb 12:11 NASB20] 11 For the moment, all <u>discipline</u> seems not to be pleasant, but painful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterward it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

Heb 12:1 Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, **let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us**, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us,



Snakes in the Garden!

https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/kathy-kehoe-bucks-county-womankills-venomous-cobra-in-her-yard-with-shovel/ 2019, 73 yo kills cobra with shovel



Mar 11:1, 12-14, 20-24 And as they approached Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples, ... 12 On the next day, when they had left Bethany, He became hungry. 13 **Seeing** from a distance **a fig tree in leaf**, He went [to see] if perhaps He would find anything on it; and when He came to it, <u>He</u> **found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs**. 14 And He said to it, **"May no one ever eat fruit from you again!" And His disciples were listening**. ... 20 **As they were passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots [up.] 21 And being reminded, Peter said to Him, "Rabbi, look, the fig tree that You cursed has withered." 22 And Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God**. 23 "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be [granted] to him. 24 "Therefore, I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be [granted] to you.

Jesus expected some fruit!



Sometimes it feels like He is cutting us down. When he's really making us better!

3 gardens!

- **∃** <u>Eden</u> Gen 2:8-16, 3:1-24
- <u>Gethsemane</u>, garden tomb Jn 18:1, 19:41
- "Thinking that He was the gardener" Jn 20:15
- New Jerusalem Rev 21-22, Ps 1, a River! Tree of Life, 12 kinds of fruit 1 tree, the Son/Sun

Eden – the 1st Adam failed to tend the garden **Gethsemane and the garden Tomb**, the pivot point and spine of the book, from OT to NT! – A new Gardener, 2nd Adam, a grain of wheat planted! **New Jerusalem**, **the Vine planted Isa.5 – Jn.15**

3 Trees Tree of life and tree of knowledge of good and evil Cursed tree, Dead tree, Aarons rod, budded! Tree of Life!

[Gen 2:8-10, 15-16 NASB20] 8 The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. 9 Out of the ground the LORD God caused every tree to grow that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life [was] also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it divided and became four rivers. ... 15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and tend it. 16 The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may freely eat;

[Gen 3:1-3, 8, 10, 23-24 NASB20] 1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any animal of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God

really said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die." ... 8 Now they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ... 10 He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself." ... 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out of the Garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the Garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

Gen 13:10 Lot raised his eyes and saw all the vicinity of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere--[this was] before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah--like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt going toward Zoar.

[Isa 51:3 NASB20] 3 Indeed, the LORD will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her ruins. And He will make her wilderness like Eden, And her desert like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, Thanksgiving and the sound of a melody. [Isa 10:18 NASB20] 18 And He will destroy the glory of his forest and of his fruitful garden, both soul and body, And it will be as when a sick person wastes away.

[Jhn 18:1 NASB20] 1 When Jesus had spoken these words, He went away with His disciples **across the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden which He entered with His disciples**.

[Jhn 19:41 NASB20] 41 Now in the place where **He was crucified there was a garden**, and in the garden [was] a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. Jhn 20:15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" <u>Thinking that He was the gardener</u>, she said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you put Him, and I will take Him away."

[Mat 26:36 NASB20] 36 Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and told His disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

[Mar 14:32 NASB20] 32 They came to a place named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here until I have prayed."

[Rev 21:1-2 NASB20] 1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer [any] sea. 2 And I saw the holy city, **new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

[Rev 22:1-5 NASB20] 1 And <u>he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal,</u> <u>coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, 2 in the middle of its street. On</u> <u>either side of the river [was] the tree of life, bearing twelve [kinds of] fruit,</u> <u>yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree [were] for the healing of</u> <u>the nations. 3 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the</u> <u>Lamb will be in it</u>, and His bond-servants will serve Him; 4 they will see His face, and His name [will be] on their foreheads. 5 And there will <u>no longer be [any] night; and</u> they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illuminate them; and they will reign forever and ever.

[Gen 2:9 NASB20] 9 Out of the ground the LORD God caused every tree to grow that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; **the tree of life** [was] also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

[Gen 3:24 NASB20] 24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the Garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

[Pro 3:18 NASB20] 18 **She is a tree of life** to those who take hold of her, And happy are those who hold on to her.

[Pro 11:30 NASB20] 30 <u>The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life</u>, And **one who is wise gains souls**.

[Pro 13:12 NASB20] 12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

[Pro 15:4 NASB20] 4 A soothing tongue is a tree of life, But perversion in it crushes the spirit.

[Rev 2:7 NASB20] 7 'The one who has an ear, let him hear <u>what the Spirit says to the</u> <u>churches. To the one who overcomes, I will grant to eat from the tree of life, which</u> <u>is in the Paradise of God</u>.'

[**Rev 22:2**, 14, 19 NASB20] 2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river [was] the tree of life, bearing twelve [kinds of] fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree [were] for the healing of the nations. ... 14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life, and may enter the city by the gates. ... 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

[Psa 1:1-6 NASB20] 1 Blessed is the person who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! 2 But his delight is in the Law of the LORD, And **on His Law he meditates day and night**. 3 <u>He will be like</u> **a tree planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers**. 4 **The wicked are not so, But they are like chaff which the wind blows away.** 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the wicked will perish.

Other gardens?

[1Ki 21:2 NASB20] 2 And Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give me your vineyard so that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is close beside my house, and I will give you a better vineyard in place of it; if you prefer, I will give you what it is worth in money."

[Sng 4:12, 15-16 NASB20] 12 "A locked garden is my sister, [my] bride, A locked spring, a

sealed fountain. ... 15 "[You are] a garden spring, A well of fresh water, And flowing [streams] from Lebanon." 16 The Bride "Awake, north [wind,] And come, [wind of] the south; Make my garden breathe out [fragrance,] May its balsam oils flow. May my beloved come into his garden And eat its delicious fruits!"

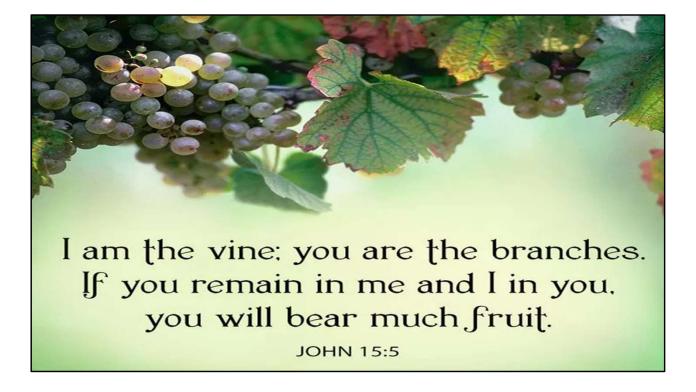
[Sng 5:1 NASB20] 1 The Groom "I have come into my garden, my sister, [my] bride; I have gathered my myrrh along with my balsam. I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk. Eat, friends; Drink and drink deeply, lovers." [Sng 6:2 NASB20] 2 The Bride "My beloved has gone down to his garden, To the beds of balsam, To pasture [his flock] in the gardens And gather lilies.

[Isa 1:30 NASB20] 30 For you will be like an oak whose leaf withers away, Or like a garden that has no water.

[Isa 51:3 NASB20] 3 Indeed, the LORD will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her ruins. And He will make her wilderness like Eden, And her desert like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, Thanksgiving and the sound of a melody.

[Isa 61:11 NASB20] 11 For as the earth produces its sprouts, And as a garden causes the things sown in it to spring up, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise To spring up before all the nations.

[Eze 28:13 NASB20] 13 "You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared. [Eze 36:35 NASB20] 35 "And they will say, 'This desolated land has become like the Garden of Eden; and the waste, desolated and ruined cities are fortified [and] inhabited.' [Joe 2:3 NASB20] 3 A fire consumes before them, And behind them a flame devours. The land is like the Garden of Eden before them, But a desolate wilderness behind them, And nothing at all escapes them.



How...you degenerate

- Soil Rototilled, broken up Mt 21:44
- I Vine − Mt 12, choicest vine − Isa 5:2
- Sun Basking in His love Ja 1:11-18, Mt 5:45
- Water Ps 1:3, rain, Rev 2:4-5, Heb 6:7-9
- Pull the choking weeds, suckers Mt 13:22

[Isa 27:2-3 NASB20] 2 On that day, "A vineyard of beauty, sing of it! 3 "I, the LORD, am its keeper; I water it every moment. So that no one will damage it, I guard it night and day.

[Jer 2:21 NASB20] 21 "Yet I planted you as a choice vine, A completely faithful seed. How then have you turned yourself before Me Into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine?

[Psa 80:8 NASB20] 8 You **removed a vine from Egypt; You drove out the nations and planted it**.

[Isa 5:2 NASB20] **2 He dug it all around, cleared it of stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. And He built a tower in the middle of it, And also carved out a wine vat in it; Then He expected [it] to produce [good] grapes, But it produced [only] worthless ones.**

[Psa 1:2 NASB20] 2 But his delight is in the Law of the LORD, And on His Law he meditates day and night.

[Psa 1:3 NASB20] 3 He will be like a tree planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

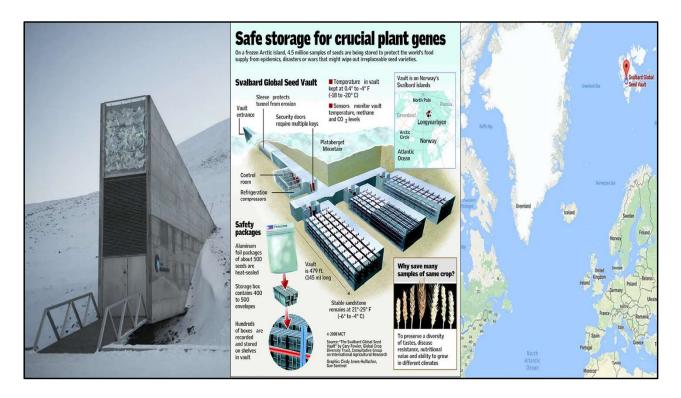
[Mat 5:45 NASB20] 45 so that you may prove yourselves to be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for **He causes His sun to rise on [the] evil and [the] good, and sends**

rain on [the] righteous and [the] unrighteous.

[Heb 6:7-9 NASB20] 7 For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and produces vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; 8 but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned. 9 But, beloved, we are convinced of better things regarding you, and things that accompany salvation, even though we are speaking in this way.

[Mat 13:22 NASB20] 22 "And the one sown [with seed] among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, and <u>the anxiety of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth</u> choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

[Mar 4:19 NASB20] 19 but <u>the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of wealth,</u> <u>and the desires for other things enter and choke the word, and it becomes</u> <u>unfruitful</u>.



https://time.com/doomsday-vault/

INSIDE THE 'DOOMSDAY' VAULT

Millions of these tiny brown specks, from more than 930,000 varieties of food crops, are stored in the Global Seed Vault on Spitsbergen, part of Norway's Svalbard archipelago. It is essentially a huge safety deposit box, holding the world's largest collection of agricultural biodiversity. "Inside this building is 13,000 years of agricultural history,"

Abide in Me

■ Apart from Me you can do nothing – 15:5

 "If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love." – 15:10

How can Jesus reside in you, and you be unchanged?

I don't mean to be "sappy" but What does it mean to abide in Christ?

[Jhn 15:4, 16 NASB20] 4 "**Remain in Me**, and I in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself but must remain in the vine, so neither [can] you unless you remain in Me. ... 16 "You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and [that] your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

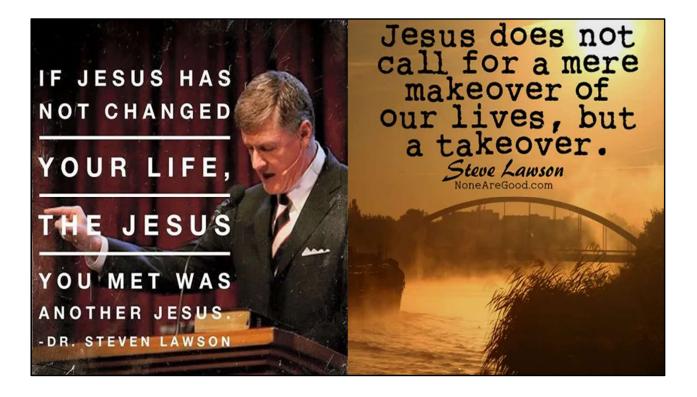
Abide in me

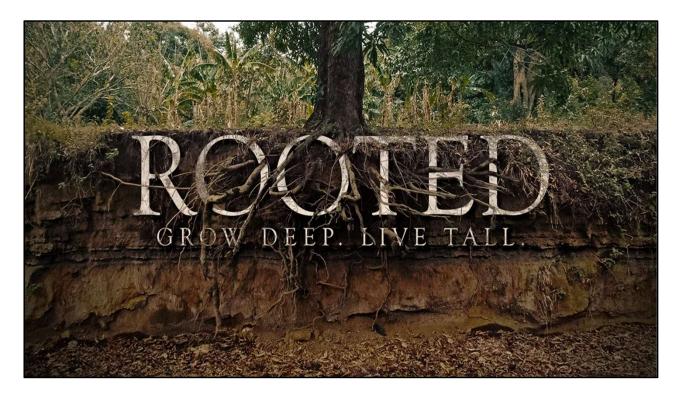
15:9-10 tell us to stay in Jesus' love, 15:17 He commands us to love each other, 15:18 He informs us the world will hate us! How does this enlighten your perspective?
One of the greatest challenges many Christians' face today is wanting everyone to like/love them! do you embrace the reality that some people will hate you! Especially when you stand with Jesus?!

•What are the life sapping things in your life that steal your spiritual fruitfulness?

[Jhn 15:10, 12, 18-20, 22-27 NASB20] 10 "If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. ... 12 "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. ... 18 "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before [it hated] you. 19 "If you were of the world, the world would love [you as] its own; but because you

are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you. 20 "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you as well; if they followed My word, they will follow yours also. ... 22 "If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 "The one who hates Me hates My Father also. 24 "If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well. 25 "But [this has happened] so that the word that is written in their Law will be fulfilled: 'THEY HATED ME FOR NO REASON.' 26 "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, [namely,] the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, He will testify about Me, 27 and you are testifying as well, because you have been with Me from the beginning.





[Eph 3:14-21 NASB20] 14 For this reason I bend my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner self, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; [and] that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21 to Him [be] the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Rooted in His love!

- 15:1-11 Dwell in His Love/Grace
- **■** 15:12-17 Love one another as Christ loves
- \blacksquare 15:18-27 Expect to be hated!
- Pro 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, but one who trusts in the LORD will be protected.

•15:9-10 tell us to stay in Jesus' love, 15:17 He commands us to love each other, 15:18 He informs us the world will hate us! How does this enlighten your perspective?
•One of the greatest challenges many Christians' face today is wanting everyone to like/love them! do you embrace the reality that some people will hate you! Especially when you stand with Jesus?!

[Pro 29:25 ESV] 25 The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe.

[Eph 6:6 NKJV] 6 not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,

[Col 3:22 NKJV] 22 Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.

[Gal 1:10 NKJV] 10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

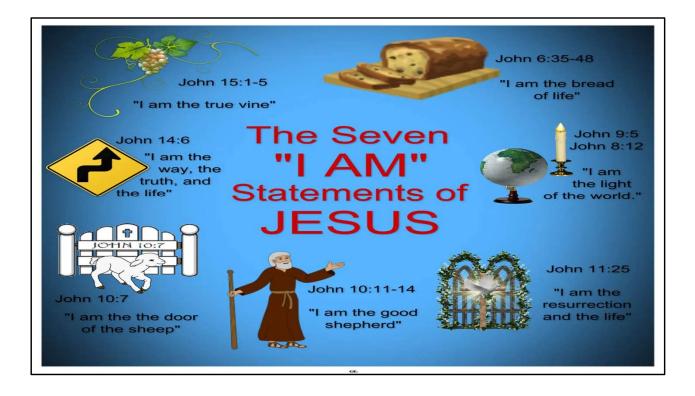
[Act 5:29 NKJV] 29 But Peter and the [other] apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.

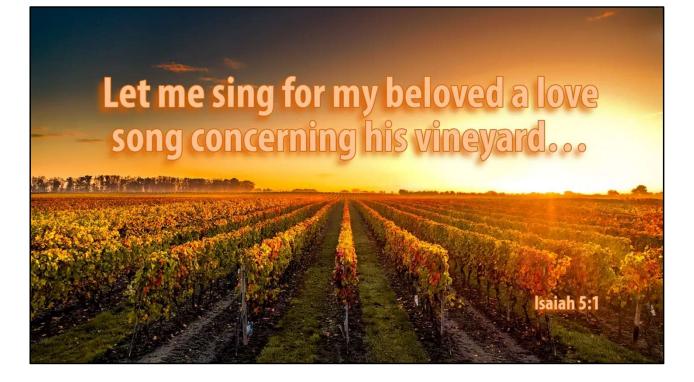
[2Co 5:9, 11 NKJV] 9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. ... 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your

consciences.

[1Th 2:4 NKJV] 4 But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

[Eph 3:14-21 NASB20] 14 For this reason I bend my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner self, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; [and] that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21 to Him [be] the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.









7 "I AM" Statements

"I am the bread of life" John 6:35
 "I am the light of the world" John 8:12
 "I am the door for the sheep" John 10:7, 9
 "I am the good shepherd" John 10:11, 14
 "I am the resurrection and the life" John11:25
 "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" John 14:6
 "I am the true vine" John 15:1, 5

