

Series: Isaiah  
Title: A Vineyard of Red Wine  
Text: Isaiah 27: 1-7  
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The Israel of God is the church of God's elect, the temple and house of the living God. Abraham's true children are not the children of the flesh, but the chosen children of God, born of God, out of every nation.

Romans 9: 6: For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: 7: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. 8: That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

This prophecy is concerning the spiritual nation Israel, the church of God.

## **I. GOD SHALL DESTROY HIS ENEMIES.**

**Isaiah 27: 1: In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.**

Isaiah has repeated this one message over and over. If I am a true messenger of God I will continue to preach it to you over and over. We need it over and over because the children of God are poor, defenseless sheep in ourselves. We need the constant reassurance that Christ our Shepherd has and shall deliver us from all our enemies.

### **WHO IS LEVIATHAN?**

When you are a helpless sinner, absolutely dependent upon God to save you, then you know that leviathan is every enemy of God that would separate you from the Lord.

- Sounds mighty broad! He is called *leviathan* because the enemy is mighty strong!
- Sounds mighty ferocious! He is called the *dragon* because he is full of fury.
- Sounds mighty dangerous! He is called the *serpent* because he is a slithering, crafty enemy--the piercing serpent, the crooked serpent.

The whole human race is divided into two. The serpent and his seed, and Christ the Seed AND those given him before time began.

Genesis 3: 14: And the LORD God said unto the serpent,...15: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Don't get the wrong idea: just because the description of our enemy is one of a leviathan, a serpent, a dragon does not mean that Satan and his seed are scary to the natural eye--they are not, they are very appealing. (Ezekiel 29: 1-9.) We will see later that Israel took refuge in Egypt. Egypt made themselves very appealing to the Lord's people. They had the man-made fish ponds, the paper reeds and things they had sown by the mouth of the brooks. Here is the attitude of the serpent and his seed and of God toward him.

Only one way that weaklings like you and I shall be saved from this great powerful enemy.

### **The LORD WITH HIS SWORD**

- *In that day.* Every enemy of our God has his day of defeat appointed by the LORD of glory.
- In that day *the LORD.* The victory over this fierce enemy belongs to our LORD alone.
- In that day the LORD *with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish and slay* the enemy.

The Substitutionary Death of Christ is the Sword of our Lord. The Holy Spirit of God Through the Gospel is the Lord's Sword.

Ephesians 6:17:...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Hebrews 4:12: For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

## **II. But though there be a sword for our enemies their is good news for the Lord's people, THE CHURCH IS THE LORD'S VINEYARD.**

**Isaiah 27: 2: In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine. 3: I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.**

The Lord gave a parable saying, "the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man *that is* an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard." (Mt 20: 1.)

### **The LORD is the Husbandman**

The LORD is the householder--this vineyard is HIS personal property, his vineyard. The LORD has planted his vineyard with the choice Seed, his Son.

John 15: 1: I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

It is a vineyard of red wine--the best fruit, his saints are washed in his blood, and his saints have the wine of the gospel which makes merry the heart like wine.

### **The LORD keeps his vineyard.**

**Isaiah 27: 3: I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.**

The LORD keeps his vineyard by sending forth his laborers--he chooses who will work for him. But it is the LORD who keeps his vineyard, and waters it every moment.

John 15: 1: I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2: Every branch in me that beareth not fruit HE taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, HE purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Who are these branches that bear not fruit? These branches he taketh away?

John 15: 6: If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

Some profess to be in Christ but their faith is in something other than Christ: as Simon Magus--their desire is for their belly. They desire to make a fair show in the flesh. They have found life in doctrine, or in the church or something of that nature but not in Christ Jesus the Vine. What fruit they appear to bring forth is to themselves, and not to the glory of God, being not the fruits of his Spirit and grace.

But catch this: he removes them: the Husbandman who keeps the vineyard removes the unconnected, unfruitful branches.

### **Why is it of utmost importance that the LORD keep the vineyard?**

**Isaiah 27: 3:...lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.**

Matthew 13: 24: Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: 25: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. 26: But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. 27: So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? 28: He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said

unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29: But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30: Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

This is not to frighten you but to give you reason to rejoice. He showed us through the nation Israel what happens when he leaves the vineyard to man: He said, "he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry."

You that the LORD our Husbandman has put into Christ the Vine--*of God are ye in Christ Jesus*. You bring forth fruit because "*of God is Christ made unto you* All. Of this vineyard--the church of God--he says: **I will water it every moment--I will keep it, lest any hurt it.**

Application: Have you noticed how he calls his laborers: wells of water and clouds of rain?

He gives us earthly riches to use for the furtherance of this gospel, and what is left is for our daily necessities. What better use could you use your substance for? He give the riches of his grace to fill his wells and his clouds in order to water his vineyard--if you have been saved by his grace you are a steward of these two kinds of riches. Like wells which provide pure water for the vineyard, like clouds that water the vineyard--he fills his wells and his clouds--his children with the Water of Life

But those who covet the earthly riches for their bellies, also make light of the heavenly riches. Those are the two things that are so dangerous for sinners--men will pay any amount of money for a standard of righteousness they can achieve. And covetous men are more than willing to water down the gospel so that the debt sinners owe the Lord is payable by man. When it happens everybody is happy with a fair show in the flesh--our Lord said that in a parable of the unjust steward exhorting his disciples to service as he spake directly to the Pharisees. Those Pharisees justified themselves--both for lessening the gospel and for their covetousness--the Lord said, "Ye are adulterers."

2 Peter 2: 17: These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

Jude 1: 11:...they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core. 12:...clouds they are without water, carried about of winds;

But here is our assurance:

**Isaiah 27: 3: I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.**

Psalms 91: 5: Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; 6: Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. 7: A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. 8: Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

### **III. THE SWORD OF THE LORD IS SATISFIED TOWARD HIS ELECT.**

**Isaiah 27: 4: Fury is not in me: who would set the briers and thorns against me in battle? I would go through them, I would burn them together.**

He said that he will punish and slay his enemies with his sword, but fury is not in him toward his elect. Why not?

Zechariah 13:7: Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

**Who would set the briers and thorns against me in battle?**

Men and women who reject the true and living God are like little briars and thorns. O, they're mighty to us. You and I can do nothing for them. I found this interesting: in his dying words, after speaking of the everlasting covenant, David said:

2 Samuel 23: 6: But the sons of Belial shall be all of them as thorns thrust away, because they cannot be taken with hands: 7: But the man that shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in the same place.

The LORD tells us who that man is: **I would go through them, I would burn them together.**

Isaiah 10:17: And the Light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briars in one day;

Christ on the Cross--the Light of Israel, the Holy One, the Man Christ Jesus fenced with Iron judged leviathan and his seed.

John 12: 31: Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. 32: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

Colossians 2: 15: And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Christ Jesus who knew no sin was made sin for his people and bore the "sword of the LORD, the fierceness of Gods' anger. His fury poured out like fire." And Christ Jesus has born this fury in the place of God's elect. O you and I who are but briars and thorns by nature, he tells us what to do--be a foolish, little briar or thorn before the Fury of his Burning or

**Isaiah 27: 5: Or let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me.**

Take hold of Christ Jesus the Strength, the Go-Between--the Daysman, the Mediator, the Intercessor, the Advocate.

Get this point: read verse 5 again and notice who you take hold of and who makes the peace: **Let him** [you the sinner] **take hold of** [Christ] **my strength, that he** [Christ the Mediator-the Daysman] **may make peace with me; and he** [you the sinner] **shall make peace with me.**

John 14: 6: Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me....10:9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

#### **IV. THE LORD PROMISES TO DO SOMETHING TO THOSE WHO COME.**

**Isaiah 27: 6: He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.**

**There is not a possibility that one true son of Jacob shall not come, all shall.**

John 6: 37: All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 44: No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

How do I know I'm a son of Jacob? Are you a supplanter--a devious sinner in need mercy? How do I know if he has drawn me? Can you come to him--better yet--can you keep yourself from him? When he draws you nothing can keep you from Christ.

**Here is the promise: He shall cause his true sons and daughters to take root:**

Ephesians 3:17: That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18: May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19: And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Illustration: My father-in-law teaching me about my wife.

Seeing Christ, when you have been made one, you will not know all the doctrine of him at first, but as you are taught of the Father--everything that glorifies your Beloved and puts you at his feet--you will say Amen--because you know HIM and you know what you are!

Because the Husbandman--God the Father--promises that you shall be:

Col 2:7: Rooted and built up in [Christ], and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Not just on a little hill in Israel--but all across the face of this globe (Psalm 92: 12-15.)

AMEN!