

BEAR FRUIT FOR THE LORD, OR ELSE!

Isaiah 5:1-7

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Every person who claims they have been saved *by* the Lord is expected to bear fruit *for* the Lord in every area of their lives.

1. THE WORK GOD PERFORMED – vv. 1b-2b

a) He planted them - v. 1b - Isaiah 61:3 He chose the best place for them and cultivated it with the view to prosper them!

b) He protected them – v. 2a A watchtower overseeing the security of the crop. God made sure they were protected on all sides from their enemies.

c) He predicted for them – v. 2b God is saying He did all the work for Israel to become a very productive people for His glory! *Romans 11:17b*

2. THE RESULTS THE PEOPLE PRODUCED – v. 2c

“Worthless ones” = literally “stinking fruit.” Are you bringing worth to the body of Christ? If someone outside of you inspected the quality of the fruit of your Christian life, what would be their assessment?

3. THE PEOPLE PRESIDE OVER THEIR INSPECTION – vv. 3-4

a) Could They Find Anything God Neglected? - vv.3-4a God said, “Examine me and the work I performed on your behalf and let Me know if I missed anything? A rhetorical question where the answer is NO!

b) Could They Find A Reason For Their Neglect? – 4b - God wanted them to see that the fault wasn’t with Him, it was in them! God pronounces 6 woes

Covetousness 5:8 Drunkenness 5:11 Defying God 5:18 Erasing distinctions of right and wrong 5:20 Self-conceit 5:21 Drunks making laws 5:22

That’s why Paul urges us to make sure we are right with God and one another before Communion. *1 Corinthians 11:27-31; 2 Corinthians 13:5*

4. THE PEOPLE’S RESULTS PUNISHED – vv. 5-6

1st and 2nd line of protection removed; God abandons them; Covenant Blessings from heaven, gone *Proverbs 9:12*

5. GOD TAKES PLEASURE IN HIS PEOPLE – v. 7

a) Pleased with His Possession v. 7a- Despite their unhealthy situation the Lord still looked ahead with what He would accomplish in them.

b) Pleased with His Pruning – v. 7b - the woes they went through was part of the pruning process to sanctify them to return to the Lord to produce the fruit He desired