

“Jesus: The True Vine”

John 15:1-16

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In John 15:1-16 Jesus calls on true believers to bear fruit by remaining in Him—the True Vine. Today we examine three traits of fruit-bearing disciples.

Intro: Keys to the Vine metaphor

- A. The true Vine is Jesus
- B. The Vinedresser is the Father
- C. The fruit-bearing branches are true disciples
- D. The fruitless branches are false disciples
- E. The fire is eternal hell

1. Abiding branches produce spiritual fruit (1-6)

“I am the true Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every [branch] that bears fruit He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit...I am the Vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing” (1-2, 5)

“you should go and bear fruit” (16)

“you will know them by their fruits” (Matthew 7:20)

“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control” (Galatians 5:22-23)

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:10)

“faith without works is dead” (James 2:26)

2. Abiding branches persevere in faith (1-16)

“you are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me and I in you” (3-4; cf. 13:10)

“I have loved you” (12)

“Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends” (13)

“You did not choose Me, but I chose you” (16)

“They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained [meno] with us; but they went out, in order that it might be shown that they all are not of us” (1 John 2:19)

“All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out” (6:37)

“whom He justified, these He also glorified” (Romans 8:30)

3. Abiding branches prove they love the Father (7-16)

“By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples” (8)

“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (13:35)

“I...ask...that they may all be one...that the world may believe that You did send Me” (17:20-21)

“prove yourselves to be...children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world (Philippians 2:15)