

## Study Notes

March 18, 2018

John 15:1-8 I am the Vine

<sup>1</sup> I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener.

<sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.

<sup>3</sup> You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you.

<sup>4</sup> Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

<sup>6</sup> Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned.

<sup>7</sup> But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!

<sup>8</sup> When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

**1. JESUS IS THE SOURCE OF TRUE LIFE**

- a. <sup>1</sup> I am the true grapevine
- b. Are there other sources of "true life?"
- c. Why do we seek for "life" in other places?

**2. JESUS WANTS FRUIT FROM HIS BRANCHES**

- a. <sup>2</sup> ... produce fruit
- b. <sup>3</sup> fruitful
- c. <sup>5</sup> ...will produce much fruit.
- d. <sup>8</sup> When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples
- e. What is the fruit Jesus wants and expects of disciples? Reproduction? The fruit of the Spirit?

**3. THE FATHER CUTS OFF UNPRODUCTIVE BRANCHES**

- a. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit
- b. What does a "severed" life look like to you?

**4. THE FATHER PRUNES FOR MORE FRUIT**

- a. <sup>2</sup> ... he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.
- b. What does it mean to be pruned?
- c. Does pruning always produce more fruit?

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**5. FRUIT COMES FROM CONNECTION WITH JESUS**

- a. <sup>4</sup> *Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.*
- b. *How does one stay connected to Jesus?*
- c.

**6. YOU CAN DO NOTHING WITHOUT JESUS**

- a. <sup>5</sup> *... For apart from me you can do nothing.*
- b. *Nothing is a tough word! Can a person's life ultimately be deemed useless (verse 6)?*

**7. USELESS BRANCHES ARE BURNED IN THE FIRE**

- a. <sup>6</sup> *Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned.*
- b. *Is this "hell?"*

**8. CONNECTED BRANCHES RECEIVE ABUNDANCE**

- a. <sup>7</sup> *But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!*
- b. *Do you believe prayers prayed in the will of God always get results?*

**9. FRUIT BEARING GLORIFIES THE FATHER**

- a. <sup>8</sup> *When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.*
- b. *Can one be a "disciple" without bearing fruit?*
- c. *Is the purpose of "branches" to bring glory to God?*