

Jesus, the Great I AM

(16) The True Vine

The promise of the Counselor ...John 14:16-31

What incredible promise does Jesus make to the disciples? 14:16-17, 26

He will ask the Father to give the Holy Spirit, to be with believers forever. Living in you!

What does 'comforter' mean? see 15:26; 16:7-15 Eph.1:13-14, 4:30

Gr=Parakletos, one called alongside to assist. The Spirit of Truth, The believer's seal.

What is *significantly* different now (NT) relative to the OT? Ps.51:10-11; Eph.4:30

The Holy Spirit permanently indwells believers today. In OT, He came and then left.

What is one of the precious ministries of the Holy Spirit to us? 14:25-26; IIPet.1:19-21

He will teach us all things, and will remind us of what Jesus said. He Authors the Word.

What promise does Jesus make next? 14:27 Rom.5:1; Phil.4:4-7, 9

He gives us (believers) His peace. We now have peace with God and peace of God.

What does He now tell them of His time with them? 14:28-31 see Col.2:15

My time with you is very short. Satan is coming but he has no hold on Me. No sin whatever

I AM the true vine...John 15:1-17

As they are leaving the supper what great declaration does Jesus make? 15:1

I AM the true vine and My Father is the gardener! Possibly spoken going thru gardens.

What is the background for this imagery? Isa.5:1-7; Hosea 10:1-2 see Mt.21:33-46

The nation of Israel was God's vine. He expected good fruit but got none! Now judged.

The key word here is *abide* (remain). What does it mean to abide in Him? 15:4, 5, 7

Unbroken fellowship. It's the only way we branches can bear fruit. It's our purpose!

What is a clear description of this fruit? Gal.5:22; Jn.15:8; Rom.8:29

It's our character, who we are. We're to be like Christ. It glorifies Christ and the Father.

How does this *character-fruit* manifest itself? What are some works that flow out of it?

Evangelism, disciple making, missionary work, ministering to the poor, comforting others

Is it possible to have these works apart from the true fruit? 15:4, 5, 6; Mt.7:22-23

Yes. But those works are dead. Easily counterfeited! Real effort (abiding) is in the fruit.

Is it possible for a true believer to not abide in Him? 15:2, 6 see IJn.5:16-17; ICor.3:10-15

Yes, it's possible. No abiding, no fruit, pruned out. Not loss of salvation. Loss of rewards.

What had Jesus already taught them about abiding in Him? 15:3; 14:8-10 see IJn.1:9

They were clean (salvation) but needed cleansing (from daily sins). Abiding in Him.

How do we become the friend of Christ? 15:14,15 and what is His command? 15:9, **12, 17**

Obeys His commandments! And His command here is to love each other like I loved you.