

Don't receive *this* grace in vain!
2 Corinthians 6:1; Hebrews 6:7-12

Romans 12:1-2

Is Jesus (The True Vine) living in and through us?

A Song for The One I Love

Isaiah 5

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Love the Gospel, Live the Gospel, Advance the Gospel

We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story and have the Central Character live in us.

- What is God like in this chapter? Can you find expressions/ proof of His grace?
- Can you find expressions/ proof of God's righteousness/ holiness? Why is it important for God to uphold His righteousness? In other words, why must God punish sin? What would be compromised if he did not punish sin?
- The six woes reveal the consequences of Israel's choice to reject God's grace (His loving authority) over their lives. How are we tempted to do the same? Which of the "woes" convicted you the most? Why?
- Israel failed to admit there was someone outside of themselves to whom they owed obedience. How can we avoid that same mistake? Where do we fail to admit or recognize God's authority? What are we afraid of when we do this?
- How does a clear understanding of God's justice (deserved judgment on sinners) help us grow in appreciation of God's mercy?
- How does the cross of Jesus (the Gospel) prove God's grace and righteousness? Romans 3:25-26
- What does it mean to "receive the grace of God in vain?" Read 2 Corinthians 6:1 and Hebrews 6:7-12.

Isaiah "*sings for the one he loves: a song about his vineyard.*"

Isaiah 5:1-6

This is ultimately about the vindication (justification) of God – why *God was right* to bring judgment on a people who had received His grace in vain.

God's mercy becomes all the more precious in view of God's divine justice.

1. The proof of God's Grace (Isaiah 5:1-7)

"What more could have been done?"

- **Isaiah 5:16**

2. The proof God's grace was rejected (Isaiah 5:8-23)

Israel's relationship with Yahweh was defective and broken – It had become a mask, covering the real intentions and desires of their hearts.

The word “woe” speaks of great distress, sorrow, regret and anger all rolled up into one!

Woe #1: greed (5:8)

Coveting! Stealing. Unjust gain. This is a social injustice.

“God’s wrath is not a cranky explosion, but a settled opposition to the cancer...which is eating out the insides of the human race he loves with his whole being!”

Woe #2: self-indulgence (5:11-12)

**Escapism.
Endlessly distracted.
Entertaining ourselves to death.**

Woe #3: cynicism (5:18-19)

5:19 reveals this mocking cynicism
“Oh God doesn’t like what I’m doing? Lets see Him stop me!”

Woe #4-6: rebellion, perversion, injustice (5:20-23)

Isaiah 5:20 - moral relativism
Isaiah 5:21 – misplaced confidence (arrogance)
Isaiah 5:22 – champions at all the wrong things

John Oswald: *“ALL of these woes are a result of failing to admit that there is someone outside of ourselves who has the rights to establish the parameters of our existence!”*

- **1 Cor 6:19**

Our choices have sobering, life-altering consequences (Galatians 6:6-7, Romans 6:23)

3. The proof of God’s righteousness (Isaiah 5:24-30)

Face to face with God’s holiness.

Isaiah 5:3 again.
What more *did* He do?
The vine owner became the true vine in Jesus Christ.

- **John 15:1-8**

700 years later God would demonstrate He is both just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.
He would show His love and holiness in the most public event of history!