

I AM the True Vine (John 15:1-8) The True Vine & the Real Branches

- I AM the bread of life: “manna” shadow – Jesus is the real bread of life
- I AM the light of the world: Feast of the Tabernacles – Shekinah glory
- Before Abraham was I AM – Jesus shows how He was Abraham’s hope
- I AM the door of the sheep & I am the true Shepherd of God’s sheep
- I AM the resurrection and the life, preparing his people to face death
- OT vine imagery used to describe Israel, describe her failure (Isa 5:1-7)

I. I Am True the Vine You Are the Branches (15:1)

- V.1 “I AM the true vine that brings forth good fruit” (Ps 80:7-8, 14-17)
- Jesus is contrasting Himself with Israel who was a failed shadow
- “My Father is the vine dresser” stresses Jesus Oneness with the Father

II. How Does - True Vine Grow & What Does it Produce? (15:1b-4)

- The Father prunes the vine that it may bear more fruit: Heb 12:4-11
- The Father ‘takes away’/ lifts up every branch that does not bear fruit.
- Key point ‘fruitfulness is an authenticating mark of the child of God.

III. Abiding in Jesus Ensures Abiding Fruit (15:5, 6)

- Fruit bearing is the result of walking with and communing with God
- Vs 6 any not on vital fellowship with God through Christ: destroyed
- Jesus uses imagery of Ezek 15:1-8 describing God’s dealing with Israel

V. Jesus’ Challenge is Personal to all Who Will Follow Him (15: 7-8)

- Jesus’ Word must lodge in us, to be fruit bearing, living disciples

John 5: 23; Phil 3:3, 12