

Isaiah 5 New King James Version

God's Disappointing Vineyard

- 5** Now let me sing to my Well-beloved
A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard:
- My Well-beloved has a vineyard
[a]On a very fruitful hill.
- 2** He dug it up and cleared out its stones,
And planted it with the choicest vine.
He built a tower in its midst,
And also [b]made a winepress in it;
So He expected *it* to bring forth *good* grapes,
But it brought forth wild grapes.
- 3** "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
Judge, please, between Me and My vineyard.
- 4** What more could have been done to My vineyard
That I have not done in it?
Why then, when I expected *it* to bring forth *good* grapes,
Did it bring forth wild grapes?
- 5** And now, please let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard:
I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned;
And break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
- 6** I will lay it waste;
It shall not be pruned or [c]dug,
But there shall come up briars and thorns.
I will also command the clouds
That they rain no rain on it."
- 7** For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts *is* the house of Israel,
And the men of Judah are His pleasant plant.

He looked for justice, but behold, oppression;
For righteousness, but behold, ^[d]a cry *for help*.

Impending Judgment on Excesses

- 8 Woe to those who ^[e]join house to house;
 They add field to field,
 Till *there is* no place
 Where they may dwell alone in the midst of the land!
- 9 In my hearing the LORD of hosts *said*,
 "Truly, many houses shall be desolate,
 Great and beautiful ones, without inhabitant.
- 10 For ten acres of vineyard shall yield one bath,^[f]
 And a homer of seed shall yield one ^[g]ephah."
- 11 Woe to those who rise early in the morning,
 That they may ^[h]follow intoxicating drink;
 Who continue until night, *till* wine inflames them!
- 12 The harp and the strings,
 The tambourine and flute,
 And wine are in their feasts;
 But they do not regard the work of the LORD,
 Nor consider the operation of His hands.
- 13 Therefore my people have gone into captivity,
 Because *they have* no knowledge;
 Their honorable men *are* famished,
 And their multitude dried up with thirst.
- 14 Therefore Sheol has enlarged itself
 And opened its mouth beyond measure;
 Their glory and their multitude and their pomp,
 And he who is jubilant, shall descend into it.
- 15 People shall be brought down,
 Each man shall be humbled,
 And the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled.
- 16 But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment,
 And God who is holy shall be hallowed in righteousness.
- 17 Then the lambs shall feed in their pasture,
 And in the waste places of the ^[i]fat ones strangers shall eat.

- 18 Woe to those who ^[j]draw iniquity with cords of ^[k]vanity,
And sin as if with a cart rope;
- 19 That say, "Let Him make speed *and* hasten His work,
That we may see *it*;
And let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw near and come,
That we may know *it*."
- 20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;
Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness;
Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!
- 21 Woe to *those who are* wise in their own eyes,
And prudent in their own sight!
- 22 Woe to men mighty at drinking wine,
Woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink,
- 23 Who justify the wicked for a bribe,
And take away justice from the righteous man!
- 24 Therefore, as the ^[l]fire devours the stubble,
And the flame consumes the chaff,
So their root will be as rottenness,
And their blossom will ascend like dust;
Because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts,
And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.
- 25 Therefore the anger of the LORD is aroused against His people;
He has stretched out His hand against them
And stricken them,
And the hills trembled.
Their carcasses *were* as refuse in the midst of the streets.
- For all this His anger is not turned away,
But His hand *is* stretched out still.
- 26 He will lift up a banner to the nations from afar,
And will whistle to them from the end of the earth;
Surely they shall come with speed, swiftly.
- 27 No one will be weary or stumble among them,
No one will slumber or sleep;
Nor will the belt on their loins be loosed,
Nor the strap of their sandals be broken;

- 28 Whose arrows *are* sharp,
And all their bows bent;
Their horses' hooves will ^[m]seem like flint,
And their wheels like a whirlwind.
- 29 Their roaring *will be* like a lion,
They will roar like young lions;
Yes, they will roar
And lay hold of the prey;
They will carry *it* away safely,
And no one will deliver.
- 30 In that day they will roar against them
Like the roaring of the sea.
And if *one* looks to the land,
Behold, darkness *and* ^[n]sorrow;
And the light is darkened by the clouds.

Footnotes

- a. [Isaiah 5:1](#) Lit. *In a horn, the son of fatness*
- b. [Isaiah 5:2](#) Lit. *hewed out*
- c. [Isaiah 5:6](#) *hoed*
- d. [Isaiah 5:7](#) *wailing*
- e. [Isaiah 5:8](#) Accumulate houses
- f. [Isaiah 5:10](#) 1 bath=1/10 homer
- g. [Isaiah 5:10](#) 1 ephah=1/10 homer
- h. [Isaiah 5:11](#) *pursue*
- i. [Isaiah 5:17](#) Lit. *fatlings*, rich ones
- j. [Isaiah 5:18](#) *drag*
- k. [Isaiah 5:18](#) *emptiness* or *falsehood*
- l. [Isaiah 5:24](#) Lit. *tongue of fire*
- m. [Isaiah 5:28](#) Lit. *be regarded as*
- n. [Isaiah 5:30](#) *distress*

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