

JUDAH'S JUDGMENT

ISAIAH 5:1-30

MAY 15, 2005

WEEK 4

ISAIAH 5:1-7 A love song

God is the Beloved, the owner of the vineyard. He has cultivated the land, removed the stones, chosen and planted the vines, built a guard tower to protect the plants, set a hedge around the vineyard, enclosed it within a stone wall, built a winepress, and carved out a vat from stone. He expects good fruit: justice and righteousness.

Israel (Judah) is the vineyard, which has responded to HIS care by producing only wild grapes: oppression and wailing.

The Holy God's response is to remove His protection and to let the land become a desolation.

ISAIAH 5:8-23

WOE (Sorrow, Sadness), the opposite of Blessed (Happiness, Contentment)

Delivered as if already having occurred: God's judgment is certain.

WOE to

8-9 covetous people who ignore God's provision in order to grab material possessions for themselves, particularly the land;

11-17 pleasure-seeking people who seek to replace God with sensual pleasures and ignore His promised judgment;

18-19 unbelieving people who cling to their sin and mock God's prophet and Word;

20 perverting people who deceive themselves and others;

21 arrogant people who depend upon their own wisdom (Ps. 139:23; Prov. 12:28; Prov. 14:12, 34);

22-23 unholy people who reject God's Word and destroy justice and righteousness (Prov. 17:15).

ISAIAH 5: 24-30

JUDGMENT (Discipline Prov. 17:15)

24-25 call down fire and rot because of God's righteous anger (still a sign of God's love: Prov. 3:11-12; 13:24)

26-29 call in enemy from afar who will come strong, alert, well-supplied, ready to kill with bows & arrows and horses & chariots, prepared to carry off their victims like a young lion. NO ONE WILL DELIVER ISRAEL (Judah)

30 darkness from clouds blotting out the light will accompany sorrow