1 – **God Expected Grapes**
Isaiah 5:1-7

2 - **Isaiah Chapter 5**

* Chapter 5 believed by many to have been written at the end of **Jotham's reign or beginning of Ahaz** during a time of great material prosperity..
* In poetic verbiage, the prophet **“sings” a song of how God had loved and blessed His people** with expectations of their devotion and righteousness and their utter rejection of His rule.
* The imagery of a “***beautiful vineyard on a fertile hill***” (vs. 1). The land of Canaan though is a rocky landscape that would require extensive work to build the vineyard described in vs. 2.
* A prompt to consider all God had done for His people.

3 - **Isaiah Chapter 5**

* **Verse 3**, Isaiah calls for God’s people to judge between God and His vineyard.
* God then asks in verse 4, ***“What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why, when I expected it to produce good grapes did it produce worthless ones?”***
* God had done everything He could to bless His people and He “***expected***” good grapes…

4 - **What Did God Do For The Israelites?**

* **God led them to the Promised Land** (Deuteronomy 8:11ff; 32:6-14) and **fought for them**. (Joshua 24)
* **He established a covenant relationship with them as “His people” and He was to be “their God”.**
(Exodus 6:7)

5 - **God’s Expectations**

* Jesus used the same parable in Matthew 21:33-41 to call upon the rulers of the Jews in His day to also make a judgment after failing to “***receive his produce***”. (vs. 34)
* **The chief priests and the Pharisees understood** but would not change. (vs. 45-46) Will we?
* The same idea is also expressed in **the parable of the talents** in Matthew 25:14-30 with the “expectation” that we use what God has blessed us with for His glory. Note the one talent man.

6 - **What is He expecting?**

* **Loyalty? Faithfulness? Obedience?**
* Consider King Hezekiah who God expected some “***return for the benefit he received***” when God extended his life. (2 Chron. 32:25; cf., Philippians 1:25)
* **Consider the demon possessed man Jesus healed**. (Luke 8:39; cf., Luke 17:17-18)

7 - **The “Woes” For Not Bearing Fruit**

**Woe to the greedy.** (vs. 8; cf., Micah 2:2)

* It will be vanity. (vs. 9-10)

**Woe to those who are aren’t sober**. (vs. 11-12)

* To the **neglect of God’s will**/law. (vs. 12;
cf., Ephesians 5:15-19; 1 Peter 4:1-3)
* They will go into exile for their **lack of knowledge**. (Hosea 4:6)

8 - **The “Woes” For Not Bearing Fruit**

**Woe to those practice deceit while enslaved to, and entangled in, sin**. (vs. 18, cf., Romans 6:12ff)

* Making a mockery of divine judgment. (vs. 19; 2 Peter 3)

**Woe to those who pervert/distort righteousness.** (vs. 20)

* Disregard for the Lord’s **ancient paths**. (Jeremiah 6:16)
* Those who mock God will mock His standards of right/wrong.

9 - **The “Woes” For Not Bearing Fruit**

**Woe to those who are conceited & arrogant**. (vs. 21)

* God’s call to humility.

**Woe to those practice deceit while enslaved to, and entangled in, sin**. (vs. 18, cf., Romans 6:12ff)

* Making a mockery of divine judgment. (vs. 19; 2 Peter 3)

10 - **Jesus Found *“Nothing But Leaves”*** (Mark 11:12-14)

**What’s the point**? **Jesus expected “*fruit*”!** (John 15:1-7)

* **By reason of time**… (Hebrews 5:12) “… ***if it bears fruit next year, fine; but if not, cut it down***.”
(Luke 13:6-9)
* **Consider the context**. John already called for **the fruit of repentance** (Matthew 3:7-10) and warned that failure would result in **their tree being cut down**. Note that Jesus just had observed that they hadn’t changed. (Matthew 21:12-13; cf., John 2:13-16)

11 - **Jesus Found *“Nothing But Leaves”*** (Mark 11:12-14)

**What’s the point**? **Jesus expected “*fruit*”!** (John 15:1-7)

* **Like salt that’s lost its’ savor**. (Matthew 5:13-16)
* **The one talent man had nothing but leaves**. (Matthew 25)

12 - **What Does Jesus Expect?**

**To keep a humble heart unlike King Uzziah.
(2 Chronicles 26:16-21)**

* We need to know and appreciate our role in God’s kingdom. (1 Corinthians 12; Eph. 4; 1 Tim. 2 & 3)

13 - **What Does Jesus Expect?**

To **“*order our ways before the Lord our God*”. (2 Chronicles 27:6)**

* What does that mean?
* First “***give ourselves to the Lord***”. (2 Corinthians 8:5)

14 - **What Does Jesus Expect?** (Mark 11:13)

To **“*learn from our adversity*” unlike King Ahaz.
(2 Chronicles 28:22)**

* To grow in our self-control or self-restraint. (vs. 19)
* God can use adversity to try to get us to seek Him.

15 - **What Does Jesus Expect?**

* **To volunteer our service unto Him**. To cry out, “***Here I am, send me!”*** (Isaiah 6:8; cf., Exodus 4:13)

16 - **What Does Jesus Expect?**

* **Obedience to the gospel.** (Mark 16:15-16)
* **Acknowledge of our sin and true repentance.**(1 John 1:7-9)