

AUGUST 14, 2022

SUMMER SERIES: STORYTELLING

The Hedge & Vineyard

ISAIAH 5:1-7, PSALM 80, JOHN 15:1-17

The parable of the Hedge and Vineyard is a repeating theme in the Bible. Some of us were taught to pray a “hedge of protection” around people, but what is the story behind this kind of prayer? What is the “hedge” and who or what is the “vineyard”? How can we apply this in our thinking and praying today?

READING THE BIBLE TOGETHER:

Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80:8-14, John 15:1-17

SOME BASICS:

- How Analogies Work

HEBREW BIBLE

- *Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-14*

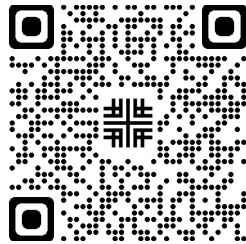
- Original Situation

- Isaiah 5: During the Syro-Ephraimite war in 734 BCE.

- *“Isaiah understands all political success or failure to be directly related to the moral condition of the society. The present crisis is directly attributable to the injustice and unrighteousness” (Anna Case-Winters, FOTW C:3, 344).*

CONNECT

- Need Prayer?
- Ask Questions
- Get information
- Make Comments
- Meet with Pastor Shel
- Sign-up for our weekly e-newsletter
- Join a Home Church



- Who is the Vine/Vineyard?

- Who is the Hedge or Hedgekeeper?

- What is the story telling us?

"We have been dealing with a parable. The parable in our text functions much like the story that Nathan tells David following the king's adultery with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 12). In that case, Nathan's story maneuvers David into pronouncing judgment on himself. In the case in our text, the parable of the vineyard is designed to lead the people to recognize their guilt and responsibility" (Michael L. Ruffin, WP,2022).

NEW TESTAMENT

- **Matthew 20:1-11; 21:33-43**

- **John 15:1-17**

- How have the stock characters and relationships changed from Hebrew Bible usage?

- What is the teaching telling us?

WHAT CAN WE TAKE AWAY?

- The Vine is not _____ . This is a living plant. So...

- Circle Prayers

LAST WORD: THE HEDGE TORN DOWN?

- **Romans 8:35-39**

- Maybe our prayers when we're anxious or fearful should be less about protection, and hedges, and more about _____

- Say yes to the Love of Christ today. Become a believer in the One who already believes in you.