

# Isaiah 5

## The vineyard of the LORD destroyed

<sup>1</sup> Let me sing for my beloved  
my love song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup> He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
and he looked for it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup> And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and men of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup> What more was there to do for my vineyard,  
that I have not done in it?  
When I looked for it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup> And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup> I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and briers and thorns shall grow up;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the men of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
and he looked for justice,  
but behold, bloodshed;  
for righteousness,  
but behold, an outcry!

## Woe to the Wicked

<sup>8</sup> Woe to those who join house to house,  
who add field to field,  
until there is no more room,  
and you are made to dwell alone  
in the midst of the land.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD of hosts has sworn in my hearing:

“Surely many houses shall be desolate,  
large and beautiful houses, without inhabitant.

<sup>10</sup> For ten acres of vineyard shall yield but one bath,  
and a homer of seed shall yield but an ephah.”

<sup>11</sup> Woe to those who rise early in the morning,  
that they may run after strong drink,  
who tarry late into the evening  
as wine inflames them!

<sup>12</sup> They have lyre and harp,  
tambourine and flute and wine at their feasts,  
but they do not regard the deeds of the LORD,  
or see the work of his hands.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore my people go into exile  
for lack of knowledge;  
their honoured men go hungry,  
and their multitude is parched with thirst.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore Sheol has enlarged its appetite  
and opened its mouth beyond measure,  
and the nobility of Jerusalem and her multitude will go down,  
her revellers and he who exults in her.

<sup>15</sup> Man is humbled, and each one is brought low,  
and the eyes of the haughty are brought low.

<sup>16</sup> But the LORD of hosts is exalted in justice,  
and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness.

<sup>17</sup> Then shall the lambs graze as in their pasture,  
and nomads shall eat among the ruins of the rich.

<sup>18</sup> Woe to those who draw iniquity with cords of falsehood,  
who draw sin as with cart ropes,

<sup>19</sup> who say: “Let him be quick,  
let him speed his work  
that we may see it;

let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw near,  
and let it come, that we may know it!”

<sup>20</sup> 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!

<sup>21</sup> Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes,  
and shrewd in their own sight!

<sup>22</sup> Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine,  
and valiant men in mixing strong drink,

<sup>23</sup> who acquit the guilty for a bribe,  
and deprive the innocent of his right!

<sup>24</sup> Therefore, as the tongue of fire devours the stubble,  
and as dry grass sinks down in the flame,  
so their root will be as rottenness,  
and their blossom go up like dust;

for they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts,  
and have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>25</sup> Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against his people,  
and he stretched out his hand against them and struck them,  
and the mountains quaked;  
and their corpses were as refuse  
in the midst of the streets.

For all this his anger has not turned away,  
and his hand is stretched out still.

<sup>26</sup> He will raise a signal for nations far away,  
and whistle for them from the ends of the earth;  
and behold, quickly, speedily they come!

<sup>27</sup> None is weary, none stumbles,  
none slumbers or sleeps,  
not a waistband is loose,  
not a sandal strap broken;

<sup>28</sup> their arrows are sharp,  
all their bows bent,  
their horses' hoofs seem like flint,  
and their wheels like the whirlwind.

<sup>29</sup> Their roaring is like a lion,  
like young lions they roar;  
they growl and seize their prey;  
they carry it off, and none can rescue.

<sup>30</sup> They will growl over it on that day,  
like the growling of the sea.  
And if one looks to the land,  
behold, darkness and distress;  
and the light is darkened by its clouds.

## Cross References

**Mark 12 v 1 to 9:** And he began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. <sup>2</sup> When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. <sup>3</sup> And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>4</sup> Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. <sup>5</sup> And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. <sup>6</sup> He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>7</sup> But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ <sup>8</sup> And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. <sup>9</sup> What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others.

**Luke 13 v 6 to 9:** <sup>6</sup> And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup> And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup> Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

### Psalm 1 v 1 to 3:

Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
<sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.

<sup>3</sup> He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that he does, he prospers.

### Psalm 119 v 11:

I have stored up your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.