

Ezekiel Chapter 15- The Parable of the Outcast Vine

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1. Read the Chapter, Ezekiel 15:1-8
2. General Context in Ezekiel: Judgment of Jerusalem Because of her Persistent Unfaithfulness
3. The specific point of the parable in Ezekiel 15 is that the purpose of a vine is to be fruitful. A vine serves no other purpose. If there is no fruit, there is no purpose for a vine. Timber (trees), though inferior, at least serve the purpose of providing wood for construction.
4. Israel (particularly Jerusalem) is the vine (15:1,6). She had been planted by God, but had become a degenerate plant (Jeremiah 2:21). She is guilty of spiritual idolatry (Hosea 10:1). Such an unfruitful nation is to be cast into the fire (Isaiah 27:10-11). Yet, the Lord God will save a remnant of Israel.
5. Let us learn the lesson of the withered fig tree (Matthew 21:18-19). That is a physical picture of the desolate land of Ezekiel 15:8.
6. The Christological application is based on point of similarity. In contrast to Israel the unfaithful vine, Jesus Christ is the true vine (John 15:1-8). Those who are connected to the true vine will bear fruit, but those who are not of the true vine will reap destruction (John 15:6).