

Harvest Service - 18/10/09 (am)

# **How Does God Taste Your Life?**

**Isaiah 5:1-7**

***Theme: God looks for sweet fruit  
in the lives of His people.***

# Synopsis of Isaiah's song

## *Agriculture & effort – 5:1-2.*

Fertile land, digging, clearing,  
building planting, tending, waiting.

BUT crop = bad grapes.

## *Appeal to reason – 5:3-4*

What more could the farmer have  
done?

What should the farmer do?

*Abandon that useless vineyard!*

***Isaiah lets his audience know  
what action the farmer would take  
– 5:5-6.***

Abandon the vineyard!

***The punch – 5:7.***

The people were the vineyard  
But their life-fruit was sour to God's  
taste!

## 4 principles emerge for us today:

- 1. God has cleared the way for a meaningful relationship with Himself*

All are born under sin's curse, *cf.*

Ps 51:5; Rom 3:23.

Sin comes between man & God,

*cf.* Eph. 2:1-3,

but God has cleared the way.

The barrier of sin is removed by

Jesus Christ.

*Only when you are in God's  
vineyard, through faith in Christ  
alone, do you become capable of  
producing sweet spiritual fruit for  
God.*

## ***2. Human beings can live fruitful lives for God.***

Begins at regeneration – being made new in Christ.

Continues through the process of sanctification – being made more behaviourally like Christ.

# What kind of fruit?

- The fruit of a transformed mind.
- The fruit of a transformed lifestyle.
- The fruits of service, *cf.* Gal. 5:22.

*How has your relationship with God  
through Christ changed you?*

*Are you salt and light in a decaying  
and dark society? cf. Phil. 2:12, 2*

*Cor. 13:5.*

***3. God examines his vineyard for  
fruit***

God examines the Christian's life for  
fruit.

This is not unreasonable!

A Christian is in the Vine! *Cf.* John 15.

***4. Unfruitfulness will be  
punished by the Almighty***

God will punish unfruitful lives.

**A non-Christian** has never started to bear fruit and is under God's condemnation, *cf.* John 3:18.

**An unfruitful Christian displeases  
God!**

He expects fruit.

He will discipline you (Heb. 12).

In Heaven, you may lose some  
reward for service. *Cf.* Eph. 6:8;

Matt. 6:20.

# Conclusion—Sweet or Sour?

*How does the fruit of your life taste  
to God?*

*Sweet or sour?*

*Christian, bear sweet fruit for God,  
not stinking fruit.*