



Seven Dynamic Declarations
from Jesus in John's Gospel

JOHN 15:1-8

John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

The Parable

- ▲ **This is a picture of Christ and his Father**
John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.
- ▲ **This is a picture of Christians and their fruitfulness**
John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches.

The Prophetic Picture

- ▲ **The Jewish-vine proved faithless and fruitless**
 - **The LORD planted his vineyard**
Isaiah 5:1 I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. 2 He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit.
 - **The LORD prized his vineyard**
Isaiah 5:7 The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are the garden of his delight.
 - **The LORD persevered with his vineyard**
Isaiah 5:3 "Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. 4 What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?
 - **The LORD punished his vineyard**
Isaiah 5:5 Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. 6 I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it." 7 The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are the garden of his delight. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.
 - **The LORD prophesied vitality for his vineyard**
Isaiah 27:2 In that day— "Sing about a fruitful vineyard: 3 I, the LORD, watch over it; I water it continually. I guard it day and night so that no one may harm it. 4 I am not angry. If only there were briers and thorns confronting me! I would march against them in battle; I would set them all on fire. 5 Or else let them come to me for refuge; let them make peace with me, yes, let them make peace with me." 6 In days to come Jacob will take root, Israel will bud and blossom and fill all the world with fruit.
- ▲ **The Jesus-vine proves faithful to the Father**
 - **Jesus would be the true vine**
John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.
 - **Jesus would bring the true vitality**
John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
 - ▶ **Christ is the true vine despite faithless Israel**
 - ▶ **Christ is the true vine amidst foreign idols and foolish ideologies**

The Principles

- ▲ **Be warned, fruitless believers**
 - **The fruitless branches will be diagnosed and detached**
John 15:2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit,
 - **The fruitless branches will be discarded and destroyed**
John 15:6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.
- ▲ **Be wise, fruitful believers**
 - **The fruitful branches will be pruned for greater fruitfulness**
John 15:2 while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.
 - **The fruitful branches will be proven by growing fruitfulness**
John 15:3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. — 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.
 - ▶ **We must remain in Christ's love and life**
 - ▶ **We must remain in Christ's word and will**
 - ▶ **We must remain in Christ's vigor and vitality**
 - **The fruitful branches will be producing glory to the Father**
John 15:8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

EXODUS 3:1-14

► *The Great I AM Reveals Himself to Moses*

Exodus 3:1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. 3 So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

4 When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." 5 "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." 6 Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

7 The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. 9 And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. 10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" 12 And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain." 13 Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" 14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

JOHN 8:54-59

► *Jesus Declares Himself To Be the Great I AM*

John 8:54 Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. 55 Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and keep his word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad." 57 "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" 58 "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" 59 At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

I am the bread of life

John 6:35; 6:45

I am the light of the world

John 8:12; 9:5

I am the gate for the sheep

John 10:7

I am the good shepherd

John 10:11; 10:14

I am the resurrection and the life

John 11:25

I am the way and the truth and the life

John 14:6

I am the true vine

John 15:1