

The Hand of the Vinedresser

John 15:1-2

THE FATHER IS THE PROTECTOR OF THE VINEYARD

One of the vinedresser's most important jobs was protecting the vineyard from harm

The vinedresser met every need of the branches

It was the vinedresser's task to provide the vineyard with constant vigilance

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The King James version describes the role of the vinedresser as a husbandman

A very personal term

An image of particular love

An illustration of great concern and care

A reflection of absolute commitment

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“In that day sing to her, a vineyard of red wine! I, the Lord, keep it. I water it every moment, lest any hurt it, I keep it night and day.” Isaiah 27:2-3

Jesus wants you to know that His Father is the Husbandman

You are precious in His sight

He is committed to your protection

Nobody loves you the way He does

THE FATHER CULTIVATES HIS VINEYARD

John described two ways the Vinedresser promotes the growth of the vineyard

Sometimes, He has to take them up

“Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away” John 15:2

The term “takes away” is the Greek term “aero” –

It means you lift up something

In a vineyard, there are times when a branch is dragged to the ground

The vinedresser does not give up on a wayward branch

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He lifts it up, cleans it off, and weaves it back into the vine so that it can become healthy again

There are times when the Lord has to do the same thing with you and me

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Our God comes to aero us, to lift us up and make us fruitful again

Sometimes He comforts, sometimes He confronts, sometimes He convicts

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Sometimes, He has to prune the vineyard

“Every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit” John 15:2

Pruning stimulates growth –

“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning” Psalm 30:5

Pruning removes the things that distract

Pruning is an investment for the long run