

Sunday - August 23, 2020

# I Am...The True Vine

Dr. Jim Cooley, First Baptist Birmingham

Today's Scripture: John 15:1-5

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

## JESUS IS OUR SOURCE

- Everything begins with Jesus
- He is the source of life itself

"All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men." John 1:3

- He is the source of Eternal Life
- The vine was the thing people turned to and depended upon to make their lives right with God
- Jesus made it personal; "It is Me"

## JESUS IS OUR STRENGTH

- One of the qualities of a vine is that it is designed to pass on strength to the branches
- In the same way, everything we need flows from Jesus
- You cannot get His strength from any other place
- We need Him all the time

## **JESUS IS OUR STABILITY**

- The vine provides a strong foundation on which branches can thrive
- Without the vine, the branches would be unable to withstand the things that come their way
- In an unstable world, He is the one thing you can always count on

## **JESUS IS OUR SALVATION**

- Apart from the vine, there is only death
- In the same way, only Jesus can offer us salvation