

Det sande vintræ

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^{D92} **Joh 15:1** Jeg er det sande vintræ, og min fader er vingårdsmanden. ² Hver gren på mig, som ikke bærer frugt, den fjerner han, og hver gren, som bærer frugt, den renser han, for at den skal bære mere frugt. ³ I er allerede rene på grund af det ord, jeg har talt til jer. ⁴ Bliv i mig, og jeg bliver i jer. Ligesom en gren ikke kan bære frugt af sig selv, men kun når den bliver på vintræet, sådan kan I det heller ikke, hvis I ikke bliver i mig. ⁵ Jeg er vintræet, I er grenene. Den, der bliver i mig, og jeg i ham, han bærer megen frugt; for skilt fra mig kan I slet intet gøre. ⁶ Den, der ikke bliver i mig, kastes væk som en gren og visner; man samler dem sammen og kaster dem i ilden, og de bliver brændt. ⁷ Hvis I bliver i mig, og mine ord bliver i jer, så bed om, hvad I vil, og I skal få det. ⁸ Derved herliggøres min fader, at I bærer megen frugt og bliver mine disciple. ⁹ Som Faderen har elsket mig, har også jeg elsket jer; bliv i min kærlighed. ¹⁰ Hvis I holder mine bud, vil I blive i min kærlighed, ligesom jeg har holdt min faders bud og bliver i hans kærlighed. ¹¹ Sådan har jeg talt til jer, for at min glæde kan være i jer og jeres glæde blive fuldkommen.

Det første er, at Jesus er det sande vintræ.

Guds folk Israel forstod sig selv som Guds vinstok. Det havde Herren kaldt dem. En vinstok, han havde hentet fra Egypten. Befriet dem og ført dem til det forjættede land. De skulle bære frugt for Herren. De skulle være et vidnesbyrd om hans trofasthed og nåde. Og ud af dette folk skulle frelseren for alle folkeslag fødes.

Salme 80: ⁹ *Du rykkede en vinstok op i Egypten og plantede den, hvor du drev folkeslag bort; ¹⁰ du beredte jorden for den, den slog rødder og fyldte landet. ¹¹ Bjergene blev skjult af dens skygge, Guds cedertræer af dens grene; ¹² den strakte sine ranker til havet og sine skud til floden.* Men hvordan gik det denne vinstok?

Hør, hvordan Herren taler til sit folk gennem profeterne.

Først profeten Esajas: *Jeg vil synge en sang om min ven, min elskedes sang om hans vingård. Min ven havde en vingård på en frugtbar skråning. ² Han gravede den, renseade den for sten og plantede den til med vinstokke. Han byggede et vagttårn i den og udhuggede også en perse. Han ventede, at den ville give vindruer, men den gav vilddruer. (Es 5,1-2)* ⁵

The True Vine

Martins Church Sep 28, 2024. LGJ

John 15,1-11

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full."

The first is that Jesus is the true vine.

God's people Israel understood themselves as God's vine. That is what the Lord had called them. A vine he had brought from Egypt. Liberated them and led them to the Promised Land. They were to bear fruit to the Lord. They were to be a testimony to His faithfulness and grace. And out of this people was to be born the Savior of all nations.

Psalm 80: ⁹ *You plucked up a vine in Egypt and planted it, where you drove out nations. ¹⁰ You prepared the ground for it, and it took root, and filled the land. ¹¹ The mountains were hidden by its shadow, the cedars of God by its branches; ¹² It stretched out its vines to the sea, and its shoots to the river.* But how did this vine go?

Hear how the Lord speaks to His people through the prophets.

First the prophet Isaiah: *I will sing a song about my friend, my beloved's song about his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile slope. ² He dug it, cleansed it of stones, and planted it with vines. He built a watchtower in it and also carved a Persian. He expected it to produce grapes, but it produced wild grapes. (Isaiah 5:1-2)* ⁵ *But now I will let you know what I will do to my vineyard: I will remove the fence*

Men nu vil jeg lade jer vide, hvad jeg vil gøre ved min vingård: Jeg vil fjerne hegnet om den, så den bliver afgnavet, nedrive gærdet om den, så den bliver trampet ned. ...⁷ Han ventede ret, men der kom retsløshed. Han ventede retfærdighed, men der kom nødskrig. (Es 5,5-7)

Hør, hvordan Herren taler gennem profeten Jeremias: ²¹ Jeg havde dog plantet dig som en vinranke, en ægte stikling. Hvor kunne du da forvandles til et vildskud, en uægte vinstok? ²² Om du så vasker dig med sæbe og ødsler med lud, er du i mine øjne plettet af synd, siger Gud Herren. ²³ Hvor kan du sige: «Jeg er ikke blevet uren, jeg fulgte ikke Ba'alerne!» Se på din færd i dalen, erkend, hvad du gjorde, en letfodet kamelhoppe, der streffer omkring, ... ²⁶ Som tyven bliver til skamme, når han gribes, skal Israel blive til skamme sammen med sine konger og stormænd, sine præster og profeter; (Jer. 2:21-27) ... ⁸ De er brunstige og gejle hingste, de vrinsker efter hinandens koner! ⁹ Skulle jeg ikke straffe dem for det, siger Herren, skulle jeg ikke tage hævn over sådan et folk? ¹⁰ Gå langs vinstokkene, og ødelæg dem, men ryd dem ikke helt væk; riv rankerne af, de hører ikke Herren til. ¹¹ For Israels hus og Judas hus er troløse mod mig, siger Herren. (Jer. 5:7-11)

Derfor må han selv komme og gå i folkets sted. Og selv være den sande vinstok. Nye Testa-mente viser os ham fra først til sidst. I dag i Johannes 15 om vinstokken, den sande.

- 1) Han må selv blive det SANDE vintræ, for de var det ikke. «JEG ER DET SANDE VINTRÆ»**
- 2) Han må rense dem og gør dem til grene på den sande vinstok, så de igen – i ham – kan være Guds folk. – De kunne ikke rense sig selv.**
- 3) Han må sørge for frugten; den kommer ikke fra dem selv, men fra ham.**
- 4) Og én ting mere: Han må også selv blive forkastet for sit folks synder og overtrædelser – han må selv blive en forbandelse for os.**

1.

Han må selv blive det SANDE vintræ, for de var det ikke. Det er vers 1 i evangeliet: ***«Jeg er det sande vintræ!»***

I Salme 80 hørte vi, at Gud rykkede en vinstok op i Egypten og plantede den i Kanaan. Matthæus skriver, at Jesus også måtte hentes fra Egypten, for at profetien hos profeten Hoseas kunne opfyldes: *Og dér blev han, indtil Herodes var død, for at det skulle opfyldes, som Herren har talt ved profeten, der siger: «Fra Egypten kaldte jeg min søn.» (Matt 2,15).* Profetien lød sådan: *«Jeg fik Israel kær, da han var ung, fra Egypten kaldte jeg min søn.» (Hos 11,1).*

about it, so that it will be gnawed off, and tear down the fence about it, so that it will be trampled down. . .⁷ He expected justice, but there was lawlessness. He expected justice, but there were cries of distress. (Isaiah 5:5-7)

Listen to how the Lord speaks through the prophet Jeremiah: ²¹ But I had planted you as a vine, a true cutting. How could you then be turned into a wild shot, an illegitimate vine? ²² Even if you wash yourself with soap and waste with lye, you are stained with sin in my eyes, says the Lord God. ²³ How can you say, "I have not become unclean, I have not followed the Baals!" Look at your journey in the valley, recognize what you did, a light-footed camel mare roaming about, ... ²⁶ As the thief is put to shame when he is caught, so Israel will be put to shame with his kings and nobles, his priests and prophets. (Jer. 2:21-27) ... ⁸ They are horses in heat, and they are squealing at each other's wives. ⁹ Should I not punish them for it, saith the Lord, should I not take vengeance on such a people? ¹⁰ Go along the vines and destroy them, but do not clear them away; tear off the vines, for they do not belong to the Lord. ¹¹ For the house of Israel and the house of Judah are unfaithful to me, says the Lord. (Jer. 5:7-11)

Therefore, he himself must come and go in the place of the people. And be the true vine himself. New Testament shows us him from first to last. Today in John 15 about the vine, the true one.

- 1) He himself must become the TRUE vine, for they were not. "I AM THE TRUE VINE"**
- 2) He must cleanse them and make them branches of the true vine, so that they can again – in Him – be God's people. "They couldn't clean themselves."**
- 3) He must provide the fruit; it does not come from themselves, but from him.**
- 4) And one more thing: He himself must also be rejected for the sins and transgressions of his people – he himself must become a curse to us.**

1.

He himself must become the TRUE vine, for they were not. It is verse 1 of the gospel: ***"I am the true vine!"***

In Psalm 80, we heard that God uprooted a vine in Egypt and planted it in Canaan. Matthew writes that Jesus also had to be brought from Egypt in order that the prophecy of the prophet Hosea might be fulfilled: *And there he remained until Herod was dead, that it might be fulfilled as the Lord has spoken through the prophet, who says, "Out of Egypt I called my son."* (Matthew 2:15). The prophecy was like this: *"I loved Israel when he was young, and from Egypt I called my son."* (Hos. 11:1).

Jesus trådte altså i folkets sted. Han gjorde det, som folket ikke kunne. Derfor måtte Sinai-pagten gå til grunde og erstattes af en ny pagt, den nye pagt ved Jesu blod, hvor Guds folk består af alle, som tror på JESUS KRISTUS, alle som er grene på den sande vinstok. Kun dem. Men også alle dem. Og hvordan bliver vi så grene på ham? Hvordan bliver vi indpodet i ham? Hvordan får vi troen og det evige liv.

2.

Han må rense dem og gøre dem til grene på den sande vinstok, så de igen – i ham – kan være Guds folk. – De kunne ikke rense sig selv – hverken jøder eller hedninger: *v.2-3 og hver gren, som bærer frugt, den renser han, for at den skal bære mere frugt.* ³ I er allerede rene på grund af det ord, jeg har talt til jer.

Renset ved ordet, Jesus havde talt. Ikke ved noget, de havde gjort. Renset ved af Jesus.

Samme aften havde Jesus som det første vasket disciplenes fødder. Jesus havde sagt til Peter: «*Hvis jeg ikke vasker dig, har du ikke lod og del sammen med mig.*» ⁹ Simon Peter sagde til ham: «*Herre, så ikke kun fødderne, men også hænderne og hovedet!*» ¹⁰ Jesus sagde til ham: «*Den, der er badet, behøver ikke at få vasket andet end fødderne, men er ren over det hele.* (Jn. 13:5-10 D92)

Og apostlene uddybede og forklarede det: *Kristus har elsket kirken og givet sig hen for den* ²⁶ *for at hellige den ved at rense den i badet med vand ved ordet,* ²⁷ *for at føre kirken frem for sig i herlighed, uden mindste plet eller rynke, hellig og lydefri.* (Ef 5,25-27).

Så ved vi, hvordan vi bliver grene på vintræet: Ved Jesu ord, ved den hellige dåb og ved den tro, han skaber i os: ⁹ *Og han har ikke gjort forskel på os (jøderne) og dem (hedningerne), idet han har renset deres hjerter ved troen.* (ApG 15,9). Og det er gör han igen og igen: *"Hver gren, som bærer frugt, den renser han, for at den skal bære mere frugt"* v2. Har du ikke brug for tilgivelse hver eneste dag. Jo. Og det er sådan, han renser os. Ved at tilgive os.

3.

Han må sørge for frugten; den kommer ikke fra dem selv, men fra ham. Han siger: ⁴ *Bliv i mig, og jeg bliver i jer. Ligesom en gren ikke kan bære frugt af sig selv, men kun når den bliver på vintræet, sådan kan I det heller ikke, hvis I ikke bliver i mig.* ⁵ *Jeg er vintræet, I er grenene. Den, der bliver i mig, og jeg i ham, han bærer megen frugt; for skilt fra mig kan I slet intet gøre.* Overvej et øjeblik, hvordan lyset blev til! Hvordan? Ved at Gud sagde: "Der skal være lys!" "Bliv lys!" Og der blev lys. Når Herren, som selv er

Jesus thus took the place of the people. He did what the people could not. Therefore, the Sinai covenant had to perish and be replaced by a new covenant, the new covenant by the blood of Jesus, in which God's people are made up of all who believe in JESUS CHRIST, all who are branches of the true vine. Only them. But also all of them. And how do we become branches of him? How are we instilled in Him? How do we get faith and eternal life?

2.

He must cleanse them and make them branches of the true vine, so that they can again – in him – be God's people. – They could not cleanse themselves – neither Jews nor Gentiles: *vv.2-3 and every branch that bears fruit, he cleanses, that it may bear more fruit.* ³ *You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.*

Cleansed by the word Jesus had spoken. Not knowing anything they had done. Cleansed by Jesus.

That same evening, Jesus was the first to wash the disciples' feet. Jesus had said to Peter, "If I do not wash you, you have no lot to share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, see not only the feet, but also the hands and the head." ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "He who has been bathed does not need to have anything washed but his feet, but is clean in all things. (Jn. 13:5-10 D92)

And the apostles elaborated and explained it: *Christ loved the church and gave himself to it* ²⁶ *to sanctify it by cleansing it in the bath of water by the word,* ²⁷ *to bring the church before him in glory, without the least spot or wrinkle, holy and without blemish.* (Ephesians 5:25-27).

Then we know how to become branches of the vine: by the word of Jesus, by holy baptism, and by the faith he creates in us: ⁹ *And he has not distinguished between us (the Jews) and them (the Gentiles), purifying their hearts by faith.* (Acts 15:9). And this is what he does again and again: *"Every branch that bears fruit, he cleanses, that it may bear more fruit"* v2. Don't you need forgiveness every single day. Yes. And that's how He cleanses us. By forgiving us.

3.

He must provide the fruit; it does not come from themselves, but from Him. He says, ⁴ *Abide in me, and I will abide in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit by itself, but only when it remains on the vine, so neither can you if you do not abide in me.* ⁵ *I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for divorced from me you can do nothing at all.* Consider for a moment how the light came to be! How? By God saying, "There will be light!" "Become light!" And there was light. When the Lord,

Guds ord, taler til os, er det med samme styrke: Jesus sagde samme aften: *Jeres hjerte må ikke forfærdes! Tro på Gud, og tro på mig! I min faders hus er der mange boliger; (Joh 14,1-2)*. Og dette ord gav dem troen.

På samme måde, når Jesus siger til os, som tror på ham: "Bliv i mig, og jeg i jer", da bliver de i ham. Han befaler det, og han gør det med sit ord, at de bliver i ham. Og han bliver i dem. Så bærer de meget frugt. For uden ham, kan de slet ikke gøre noget. Det er ham, der gør det, ligesom det er vinstokken, der sender saft ud i grenene. Det er et stort evangelium. Det er Ham, Jesus, der gør det, han siger vi skal: Han bevarer os og lader os bære frugt.

4.

Og én ting mere: Han må også selv blive forkastet for sit folks synder og overtrædelser – han må selv blive en forbandelse for os. Han siger jo: *⁶ Den, der ikke bliver i mig, kastes væk som en gren og visner; man samler dem sammen og kaster dem i ilden, og de bliver brændt.*

Det er vanskelige ord at lytte til. Men det er sandt. For uden at han renser os og bevarer os ved troen i ham, er alt tabt. Alt. Vi kastes væk og visner – og grenene samles sammen på den yderste dag og brændes i evighed. Det fortæller Jesus flere andre steder. Når denne frygt rammer os, da tænk på, at han også her gik i vort sted. Han er den sande vinstok. Vi duede ikke. Men han, som duede og var den sande vinstok, med ham skete det forfærdelige: at han blev forkastet – kastet bort – hængt på et kors – forbandet af Gud og mennesker. Det er evangeliet til os, så vi klynger os til Jesus Kristus. Da er al dommen jo fjernet. Han siger jo også: *Som Faderen har elsket mig, har også jeg elsket jer; bliv i min kærlighed. ... Sådan har jeg talt til jer, for at min glæde kan være i jer og jeres glæde blive fuldkommen.* Den kærlighed gør os glade. Og alt er vel. Han er den sande vinstok, vi er grenene. Vi er renset ved vandbadet ved ordet. OG han renser os med syndernes forladelse, så vi kan bære frugt for ham til hans ære og til gavn for vor næste. Amen

who is the Word of God himself, speaks to us, it is with the same force: Jesus said that same evening, "*Let not your heart be troubled.*" *Believe in God, and believe in me!* *In my father's house there are many dwellings;* (John 14:1-2). And this word gave them faith.

In the same way, when Jesus says to us who believe in Him, "Abide in me, and I in you," they abide in Him. He commands it, and He does it with His word, that they abide in Him. And he stays in them. Then they bear a lot of fruit. Because without him, they can't do anything at all. He is the one who does it, just as it is the vine that sends sap into the branches. It is a great gospel. It is He, Jesus, who does what He tells us to do: He preserves us and makes us bear fruit.

4.

And one more thing: He himself must also be rejected for the sins and transgressions of his people—he himself must become a curse to us. For he says, *⁶ He who does not abide in me is cast away like a branch and withers; they are gathered together and thrown into the fire, and they are burned.*

These are difficult words to listen to. But it's true. For without Him cleansing us and keeping us by faith in Him, all is lost. All. We are cast away and withered – and the branches are gathered together at the last day and burned for eternity. Jesus tells us this in several other places. When this fear comes upon us, remember that here too he went in our place. He is the true vine. We were no good. But he, who was good and was the true vine, with him the terrible thing happened: that he was rejected – cast away – hung on a cross – cursed by God and man. It is the gospel to us, so we cling to Jesus Christ. Then all the judgment is removed. For he also says: *As the Father loved me, so have I also loved you; abide in my love. Thus have I spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.* That love makes us happy. And all is well. He is the true vine, we are the branches. We are cleansed by the water bath by the word. AND He cleanses us with the remission of sins, that we may bear fruit for Him for His glory and for the good of our neighbor. Amen