

Isaiah 27:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine.

Analysis

In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine. This verse opens the Song of the Vineyard (vv.2-6), echoing but reversing Isaiah's earlier vineyard song (5:1-7) where Israel was an unproductive vineyard destined for judgment. Here **in that day** points to restoration after judgment. The Hebrew *kerem chemer* (כֶּרֶם חֶמֶר) literally means "vineyard of wine" or "pleasant vineyard"—some translations render *chemer* as "red wine" or "choice wine," emphasizing quality and fruitfulness.

The command **sing ye unto her** (*annu lah*, אָנוּ לָהּ) means "answer her" or "sing responsively to her," suggesting joyful celebration of the vineyard's restored productivity. Unlike chapter 5 where God expected grapes but got wild fruit (*be'ushim*), now the vineyard produces abundantly. This reversal from judgment (ch.5) to blessing (ch.27) illustrates God's redemptive purposes—discipline is not abandonment but preparation for restoration. Jesus later identifies Himself as the true vine (John 15:1-8), with His people as fruitful branches in God's vineyard.

Historical Context

Isaiah's original audience had heard the vineyard song of chapter 5, pronouncing doom on unfruitful Israel. Chapter 27's restoration song, likely written later, promised that beyond Assyrian/Babylonian judgment lay future blessing. For post-exilic Jews returning from Babylon, this encouraged hope that God had not finally rejected His people. New Testament writers saw the church as God's vineyard (Matthew 21:33-44, 1 Corinthians 3:9), bearing fruit through Christ the true vine.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does the contrast between Isaiah 5's judgment-vineyard and chapter 27's restored vineyard illustrate God's redemptive purposes?
2. What does it mean for believers to be fruitful branches in God's vineyard today?
3. How does this restoration song encourage those experiencing God's discipline or feeling spiritually unproductive?

Interlinear Text

בִּי יוֹם	הָהּ וְאֵל	כָּ רֶם	הָ מָר	עֲנוּ	לָהּ:
In that day	H1931	ye unto her A vineyard	H2531	sing	H0
H3117		H3754		H6031	

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 2:21 (Parallel theme): Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?