

Isaiah 5:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

Analysis

God's rhetorical question challenges anyone to identify anything more He could have done for Israel. The implied answer—nothing—establishes His complete faithfulness to covenant obligations. The question 'wherefore...brought it forth wild grapes?' expresses divine grief and bewilderment at Israel's perverse response to perfect care. This demonstrates that salvation's failure never lies with God's insufficient grace.

Historical Context

Israel had received the law, prophets, temple worship, deliverance from Egypt, conquest of Canaan, and establishment as a kingdom—every covenant provision. Their failure was inexcusable.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does this passage answer those who claim God hasn't given them enough to believe?
2. What does Christ's incarnation add to the vineyard parable regarding God's exhaustive provision?

Interlinear Text

מָה יְعַשׂ עַתָּה לְכַרְמֵל

H4100 **What could have been done** H5750 **more to my vineyard** H3808

H6213

H3754

לְכַרְמֵל יְתִיתִ בְּזַעַם

What could have been done H0 **in it wherefore** H4069 **when I looked** H6960

H6213

H4069

H6960

לְכַרְמֵל יְעַשׂ עַתָּה יְמִינֵךְ

What could have been done H6213 **grapes** H6025 **What could have been done** H6213 **wild grapes** H891

H6213

H6025

H6213

H891

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 23:37 (Parallel theme): O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

Jeremiah 2:5 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me, and have walked after vanity, and are become vain?

Isaiah 1:5 (Parallel theme): Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

Ezekiel 24:13 (Parallel theme): In thy filthiness is lewdness: because I have purged thee, and thou wast not purged, thou shalt not be purged from thy filthiness any more, till I have caused my fury to rest upon thee.

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