

# Jesus Only

*John 15:1-11*

*August 29, 2021*

**INTRO:** *I mentioned last week an excerpt from David Bryant's blog that a major lack in the church today is an adequate Christology, as Bryant put it, a crisis of Christology. The crisis is mainly around the exaltation and all sufficiency of Christ. We have reduced Him to little more than an icon of faith Who has very little power to effect change in the church, in our lives, in our circumstances. In John 15 Jesus describes Himself as the Vine and turns the tables on our thinking.*

## I. The Relationship of the Vine to the Branches

- A. Jesus is the Vine—He is the source of all our supply
- B. The Father is the Gardener—the One Who cares for the vine and the branches
- C. We are the branches and we are either
  - 1. Productive
  - 2. Marginal
  - 3. Or Useless

What is the Difference and how do we become One or the Other of these Branches?

## II. Fruitless and Fruitful Branches

- A. Fruitless branches do not bear any fruit and are useless and fit only for removal
- B. Fruitful branches bear fruit to one extent or the other and the Father prunes them so that they will bear more fruit (discipline)

## III. How do Fruitful Branches Produce Fruit?

- A. They abide in the vine—the Sabbath Rest of God
- B. They intercede for the demonstration of Jesus' power and glory to be manifest

- C. They are students of the Word of God
- D. They abide in the love of Jesus
- E. Consequently their prayers are answered

**IV. William Gurnall—The Christian in Complete Armor—Vol 1, pp.43-49—Modern Abridgment**

- A. Three Reasons for Trusting God's Power
  - 1. His past record
  - 2. Our present dilemma
  - 3. His eternal desire
- B. The Fivefold Bond Securing God's Power
  - 1. His near kinship to the saints
  - 2. His dear love for the saints
  - 3. His everlasting covenant
  - 4. His self imposed obligation
  - 5. His interceding Son