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The Song of the Vineyard

1. The Vineyard: Great Expectations (5:1-7)

- *a total work* – the Lord leaves nothing undone in caring for Israel; no blame to the Owner
- *a total loss* – the Lord will allow and cause His vineyard to be completely devastated
- *a total failure* – the violation of the “social justice” at the heart of the covenant is the bad fruit

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2. The Fruit: Worthless Grapes

- a) Woe to the greedy and self-indulgent (5:8-17)
- they acquire riches and pursue ongoing pleasure by means of oppressing of the poor
 - intoxicated by self-seeking pleasure, they have no spiritual perception of true reality

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2. The Fruit: Worthless Grapes

- b) Woe to those wise in their own eyes (5:18-23)
- while enslaved to sin, they taunt God, asking Him to show Himself and His purpose
 - they reverse the Lord’s moral code to serve their own selfish ends

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3. The Harvest: Complete Destruction (5:24-30)

- the Lord uses a foreign nation, an unstoppable army, as His instrument of judgment from which there is no escape

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➤ Foreshadowing of Final Judgment

- principle of retributive justice – the punishment perfectly fits the crime
- the Lord’s anger will be completely spent and His justice satisfied through which He will be exalted

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Q: *"What more was there to do?"* (5:4)

- God does the extraordinary, inexplicable work of giving His only Son, the true vine (cf. John 15:1-5)
- the ultimate "bad fruit" is the rejection of God's Son, the Lord Jesus – brings inevitable judgment (cf. Matt. 21:33-44)