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BIBLE HOUSE  
OF  
GRACE**

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## **Grapes Good and Bad**

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Grapes Good and Bad.

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### The nature of grapes and their growth:

- The vine is the main part of the grapevine, extending from the root system in the ground up to the vine.
- Most grapevines self-pollinate.
- If the clusters have too many leaves shading the fruit, or too much sun or too many grapes on a cluster none of them will ripen well, and if they are poorly pruned the vines will not produce high-quality fruit. And without high-quality fruit, winemakers cannot make high-quality wine.
- Vineyard workers inspect the fruit clusters and cut away any clusters that are not developing properly. During this pruning process much of the fruit is dropped to the ground to be later collected and thrown away. This thinning process helps the vines send their energy to the best clusters and results in high-quality fruit.
- The grape clusters are crushed to break open the berries and release their juice, the old-fashioned way to do this was to tread them out in a wooden vat, today, most wineries use a machine.

**Good grapes:** (i.e., heavenly grapes), refer to faithful Christians.

**Bad grapes:** (i.e., earthly grapes) refer to the ungodly the wicked, and those who deny God.

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**Clusters of grapes:** on a cluster (bunch) of grapes there are good grapes and bad grapes, the wine dressers go throughout the vineyard collecting the good grapes off the clusters (called the harvest of the good fruit) and afterward all the remaining worthless grapes that are left on the clusters are gathered and cast away.

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## GATHER CLUSTERS FROM THE VINE FOR ITS GRAPES ARE RIPE

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- **Revelation 14:18:** And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, “Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe” (her grapes are fully ripe in KJV).

This ripeness has the following two aspects:

1. It is a time for decision and conversion.
2. It is a time for judgement and destruction.

It carries the idea that the time has come for the ingathering of the redeemed, and the destruction of the wicked, and for the winding up of human affairs. The time referred to here is end of the world as we know it, when all the enemies of Christ and the church will be cut off. The worthless grapes of the earthly vine are fully ripe to be cut down and trampled underfoot for their iniquities have come to the full.

In the book of Joel, it is written:

- **Joel 3:12-13:** Let the nation's stir themselves up and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. <sup>13</sup>Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the winepress is full. The vats overflow, for their evil is great. <sup>14</sup>Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

And in the book of Revelation:

- **Revelation 19:15:** From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

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