

Treasures New and Old

“Sold for \$9,000.00 dollars to the gentleman in the front row. This extravagant wine donation from Barnabas Winery concludes this year’s charity auction.”

It was a very good year for Barnabas. The Lord had yet again blessed his land with grapes that seemed to surpass every previous year in flavor and beauty. In the late afternoon, Barnabas likes to take a folding chair into the vineyard and sit among the grapes, giving thanks and pondering, reading, and enjoying the sunset. There seemed to him to be a correlation between the colors of the ripened grapes and the colors of the sunset.

The vineyard is a delight to Barnabas, but he has another refuge, his personal wine cellar. His favorite books create an atmosphere of solitude among friends and the constant temperature of the basement cellar is especially nice if he decides to nap in his big easy chair. The cellar is where he can get away from distractions. There are some advantages to being the retired CEO of Barnabas Winery. He gave his life to the job of training up the next generation on how to grow fruit and bring in the harvest, so now he enjoys the vineyard.

The vintage wine bottles that line the walls are a history of his family’s work in the fields, testimonies of years of labor, and care to bring forth fruit for a great harvest. Of course, none of it happens without the blessing of the Lord. He is the Master of the Vineyard. Sitting in his easy chair, Barnabas was pondering Matthew 13:52: And Jesus said to them, “Therefore every teacher who has become a disciple of the Kingdom of Heaven is like a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things both new and old.”

This made Barnabas think about the wines they produce. Some folks prefer an older vintage, a mature wine. They like the depth and richness of the fruit. It is something they know and are accustomed to. Some view new wine as good, but they may be reluctant to appreciate the dimensions of the new wine. After all, it too will become old wine with new revelations of depth and beauty.

Then he realized; The Old Testament is God revealing Himself to man, and the New Testament is a revelation of God's truth through Jesus Christ. They fit together seamlessly, because Messiah is the vine running through the entire Bible. It all points to Him.

Matthew said; “like a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things both new and old.” Usually only the rich own treasure. We are those rich people because Jesus is our treasure, and we learn about Him in the Bible. We must read, and teach both Testaments because the foreshadowing of the Gospel is found within the Old Testament. They are interlocked together and the scriptures will deepen, and grow brighter over time for the one who digs out this treasure.

From the old vines comes the new fruit. The old wine and the new wine came from the same source, the rich soil of the Master of the Vineyard.

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. John 15:1