

## A Metaphor on Divine Justice (15:1–8)

Veritas Adult Community  
September 15, 2019

### The Text

<sup>15:1</sup>The following message of YHWH came to me:

<sup>2</sup>Human, of all the trees, what happens to the wood of the grapevine, that is, the vine branch that was found among the trees of the forest? <sup>3</sup>Can wood be taken from it to make anything useful? Can a person take a peg from it on which to hang any vessel? <sup>4</sup>Look! It is put in the fire to be consumed; the fire burns both ends, and it is burned to the core. Is it useful for anything at all? <sup>5</sup>Look! When it was whole it was not made into anything useful. How much less can it ever be made into anything useful when fire has consumed and burned it.

<sup>6</sup>Now then, thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

Like the wood of the grapevine among the trees of the forest, which I have consigned to the fire to be consumed, so have I consigned the residents of Jerusalem. <sup>7</sup>I will set my face against them. Some may have escaped from the fire, but the fire will consume them. And you will know that I am YHWH, when I set my face against them. <sup>8</sup>I will make the land a desolation, because they have acted treacherously. The declaration of the Lord YHWH.

### Introduction

#### Isaiah 5:1–7

1. The Metaphor (15:1–5)
2. The Interpretation (15:6–8)

#### Theological and Practical Application

1. We must be cautious about falsely claiming security based on the privilege of being the royal vine, the privileged people of God. Psalm 80.
2. The judgment visited upon those who do not match profession with faithfulness is severe.
3. The warning about false claims to security is actually an announcement of grace.