The True Vine

April 15, 2018
John 15
What is the nature of true religion?

Jonathan Edwards
I. Prologue (1:1-18)
II. The Book of Signs (1:19-12:50) [PUBLIC]
III. The Book of Glory (13:1-20:31) [PRIVATE]
   - The Farewell Discourse (13-17)
   - The arrest, trial and crucifixion (18-19)
   - The resurrection (20)
IV. Epilogue (21)
The Farewell Discourse

In the Upper Room (13:1-14:31)
- Jesus gives the disciples an example of loving humility (13:1-20)
- Jesus identifies Judas as the betrayer (13:21-30)
- Jesus predicts His imminent death (13:31-33)
- Love one another with a perfect love (13:34-35)
- Peter will deny Jesus 3 times (13:36-38)
- Jesus comforts His disciples with truth (14)

On the way to the Garden (15:1-17:26)
I. Our relationship to Christ is to abide in Him (15:1-11)
   A. The Vine/Vinedresser/Branch Metaphor (15:1-2)
      o Jesus is the Vine
      o The Father is the Vinedresser
      o Fruitless branches represent professing believers who demonstrate their connection to Jesus is superficial
      o Fruitful branches represent genuine believers
I. Our relationship to Christ is to abide in Him (15:1-11)
   A. The Vine/Vinedresser/Branch Metaphor (15:1-2)
   B. The Overarching command: Abide (15:3-8)
      o Fruitfulness is impossible apart from abiding (15:4)
      o Abiding results in fruitfulness (15:5)
      o Failure to abide results in final judgment (15:6)
Our relationship to Christ is to abide in Him (15:1-11)

A. The Vine/Vinedresser/Branch Metaphor (15:1-2)

B. The Overarching command: Abide (15:3-8)

C. Believers abide by faith in God’s word (15:9-10)
   - Abiding results in loving obedience (1 John 2:5-6, 3:24, 4:12)
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   D. Summary (15:11)
      o Abiding in Christ produces gladness!
II. Our relationship to those in the church is to love one another (15:12-17)

A. Christ demonstrates the intensity of His love by bearing God’s wrath for your sin (15:12-15)

B. Christ’s love for you is undeserved and through His sovereign choice (15:16-17)
III. Our relationship to the World is to expect persecution (15:18-16:1-4)

A. The world hates and persecutes the truth (15:18-25)

B. The church responds to persecution by proclaiming the truth in the power of the Holy Spirit (15:26-27)