



Winnowed by the Word





Blueprint for Abundant Life

- John 15 **"I am the true vine,** and **My Father is the vinedresser.** 2 **Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away;** and **every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.** 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 **Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.**



Mystery Step

- 3 You are already **clean** because of the word which I have spoken to you.
- Katharos - In the New Testament, it is often used to describe the purity of heart and spirit, as well as the cleanliness required by Jewish law.
- Already pruned?
- Already delivered from Sin?
- properly, "without admixture" ; what is separated (purged), hence "clean"



Purged and Separated

- Scholars had a hard time connecting katharos to anything about wine/agriculture, which is the image here, because in all other cases it is used to describe spiritual or moral purity
- Only one other case in all of GK literature where katharos is connected to agricultural
- Written in 300 BC, in a discussion of wheat farming, where katharos is used to describe WINNOWING



Oh, Now I Get It!

- You have been sitting under my word for **THREE YEARS** and it is purged you, it has purified you, by separating the wheat from the chaff and causing you to hunger after what is true and right and it has delivered you from the lies and deceptions of the world, the flesh and the devil
- So now, the only assignment you have is to **ABIDE IN ME AND LET ME LIVE MY LIFE IN YOU AND DO MY WORK THROUGH YOU!!**



Winnowed by the Word

- Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- What does this sound like to you??
- WINNOWING – the more we fill our hearts with the Word, the more our impurities will be exposed so the Holy Spirit can blow them out



Branch or Bonfire?

- 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, **for apart from Me you can do nothing.** 6 **If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned.** 7 **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.**



Good News!, YOU Are

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY