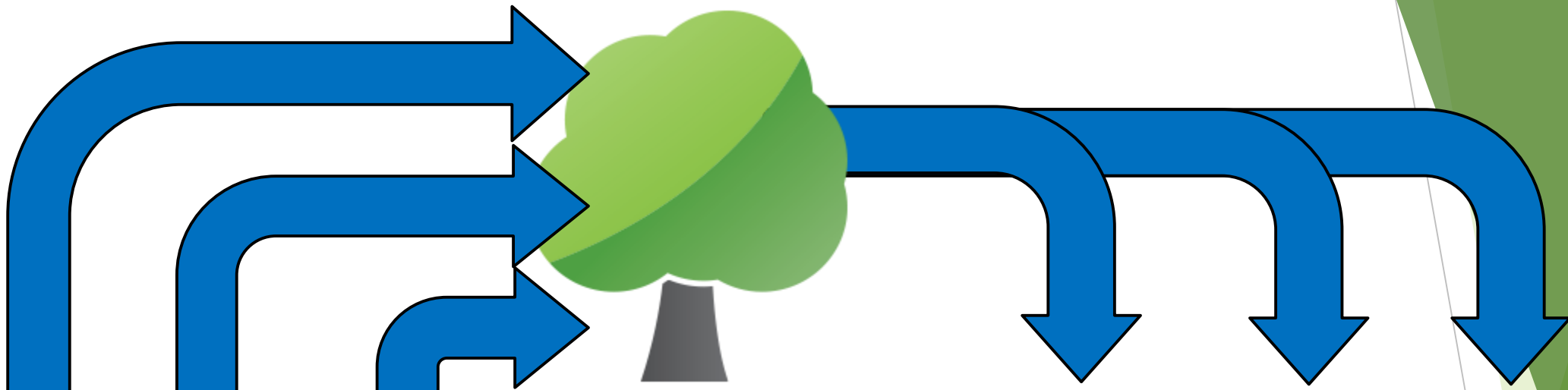


Trees, Plants and Grasses of the Bible

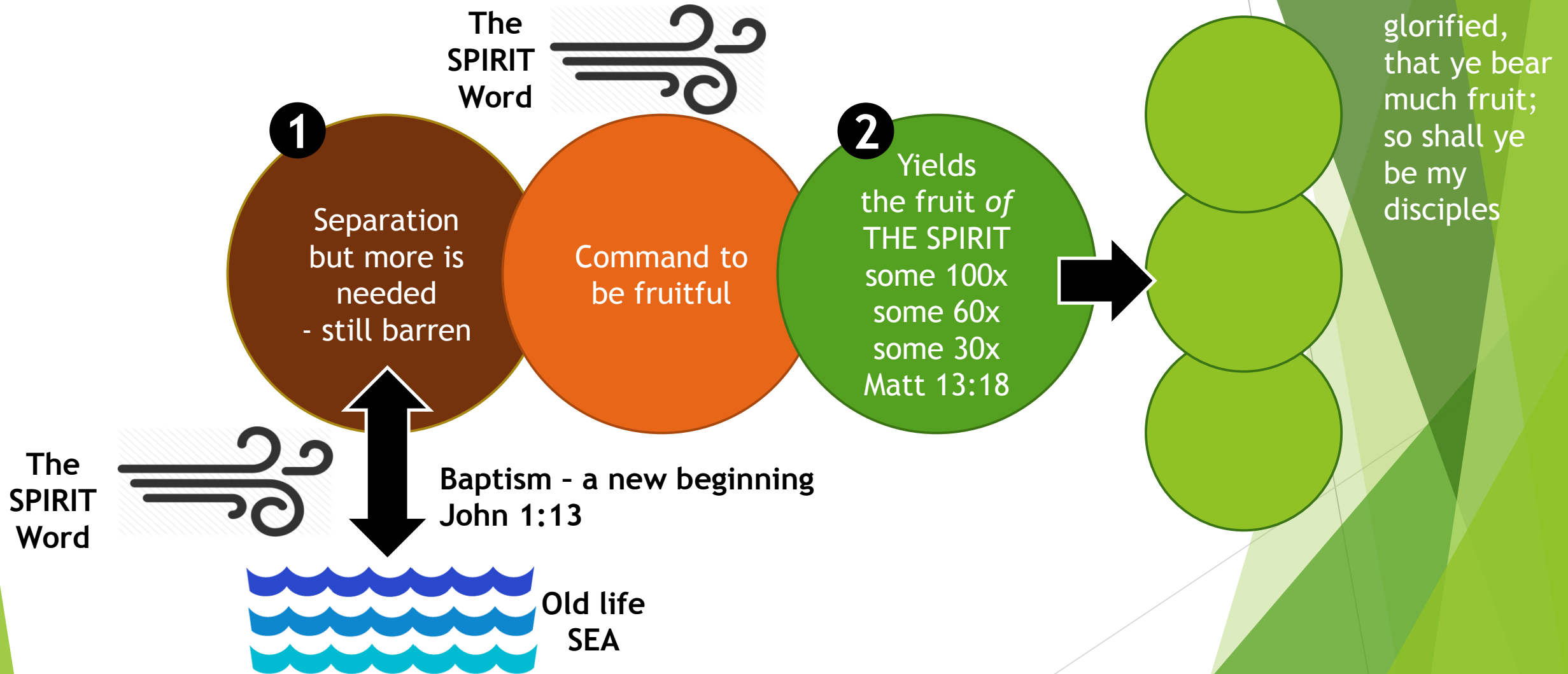
PART 3

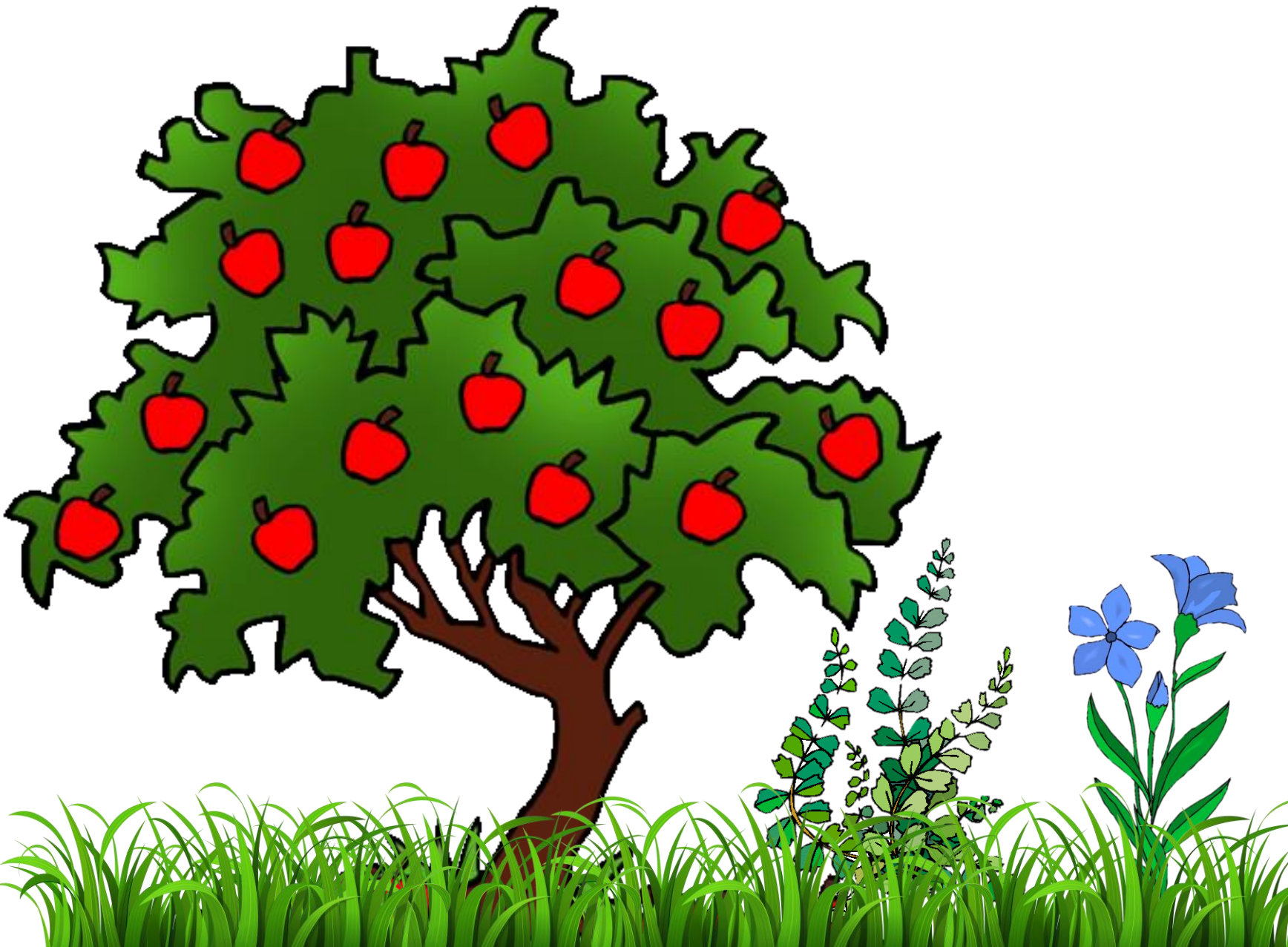
Brief Summary of Part 1 & 2



Day 1	Day 2	Day 3a	Day3b	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6a	Day 6b	Day 7
LIGHT	ATMOSPHERE	EARTH & WATER	PLANTS	VISIBLE LIGHTS	AQUATIC & AVIAN LIFE	EARTH LIFE	HUMAN LIFE	REST
Day	Beneath	Dry Land	Grasses	Sun	Fish	Cattle	Male	
Night	Above	Seas	Herb	Moon	Fowl	Creeping	Female	
			Trees	Stars		Beasts		

The analogy applied to us





EARTH

← 3 **TREES**
**PRODUCING SEED
AND FRUIT**

← 2 **PLANTS**
PRODUCING SEED

← 1 **GRASS**



Num 18:12 All the best of the **oil**, and all the best of the **wine**, and of the **wheat**, the firstfruits of them which they shall offer unto the Lord...

GRAIN

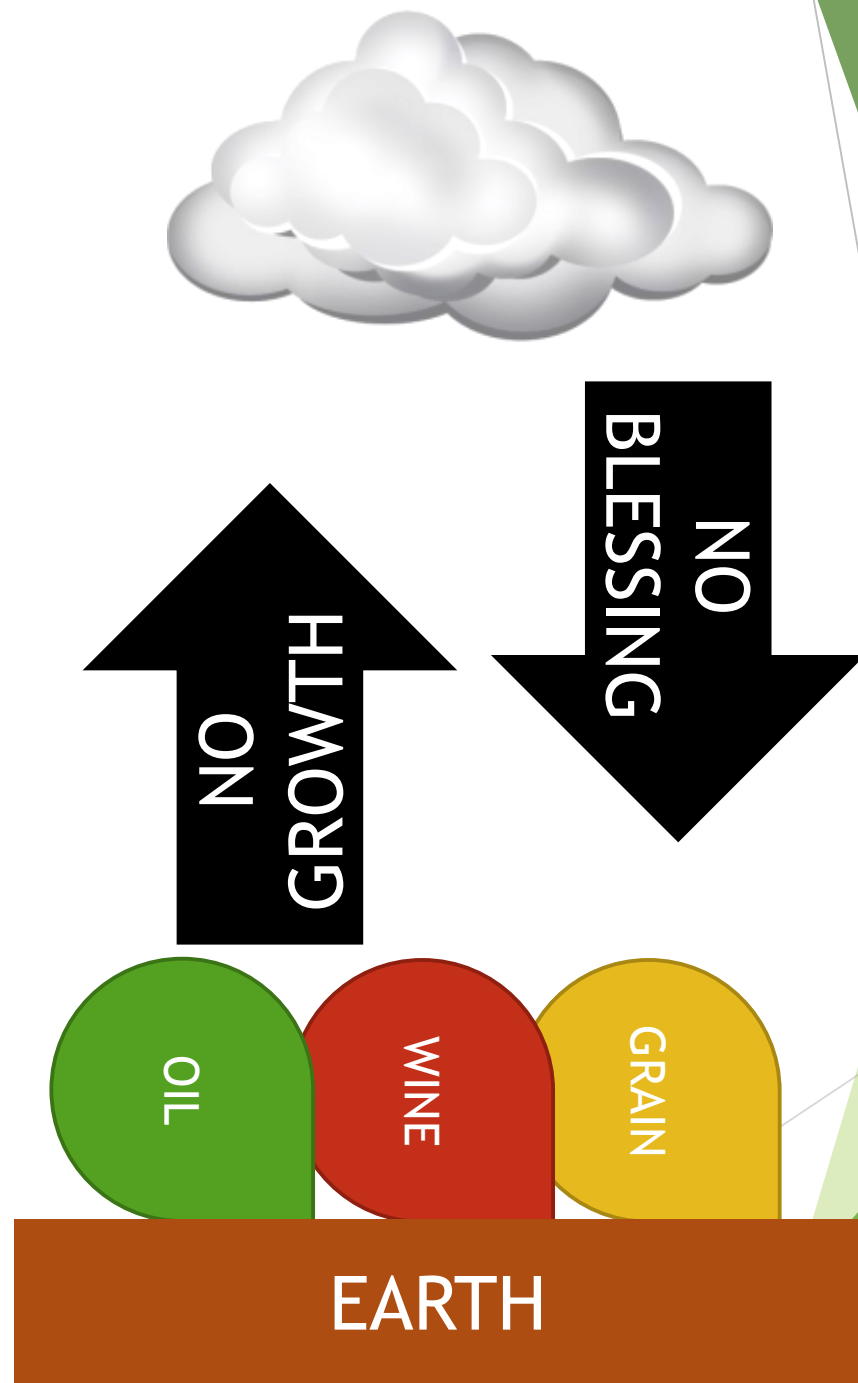
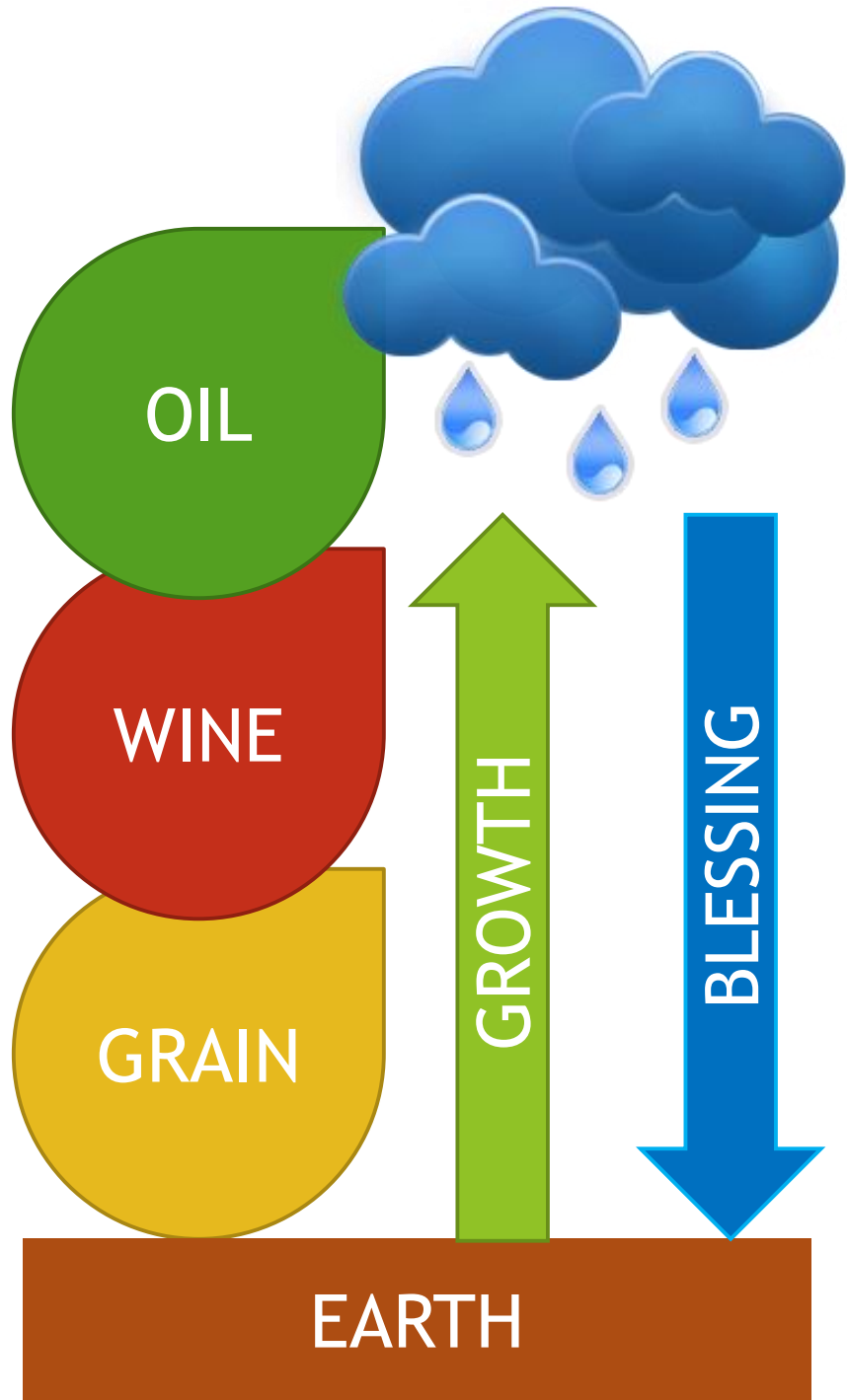
1

WINE

2

OIL

3



MORE USES



EARTH

SEA

To produce the fruit
of the spirit
Gal 5:22-23

Labouring in one
vineyard - whether Jew
or Gentile, bond or
free, male or female
Gal 3:28

Being seeded from the
One Seed - Christ
Gal 3:16

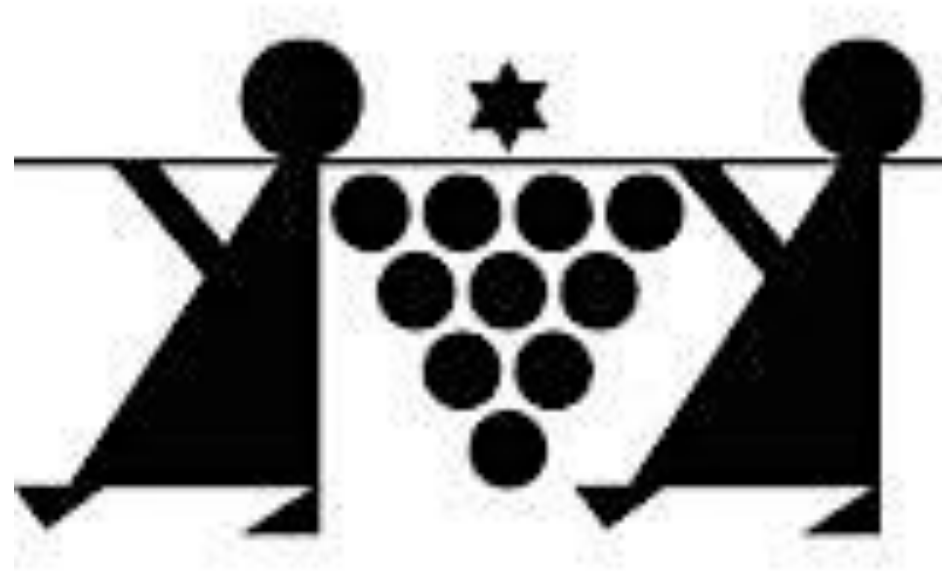
Being rooted &
grounded in the shared
faith of Abraham
Gal 3:29

We emerge from the
water Gal 3:27

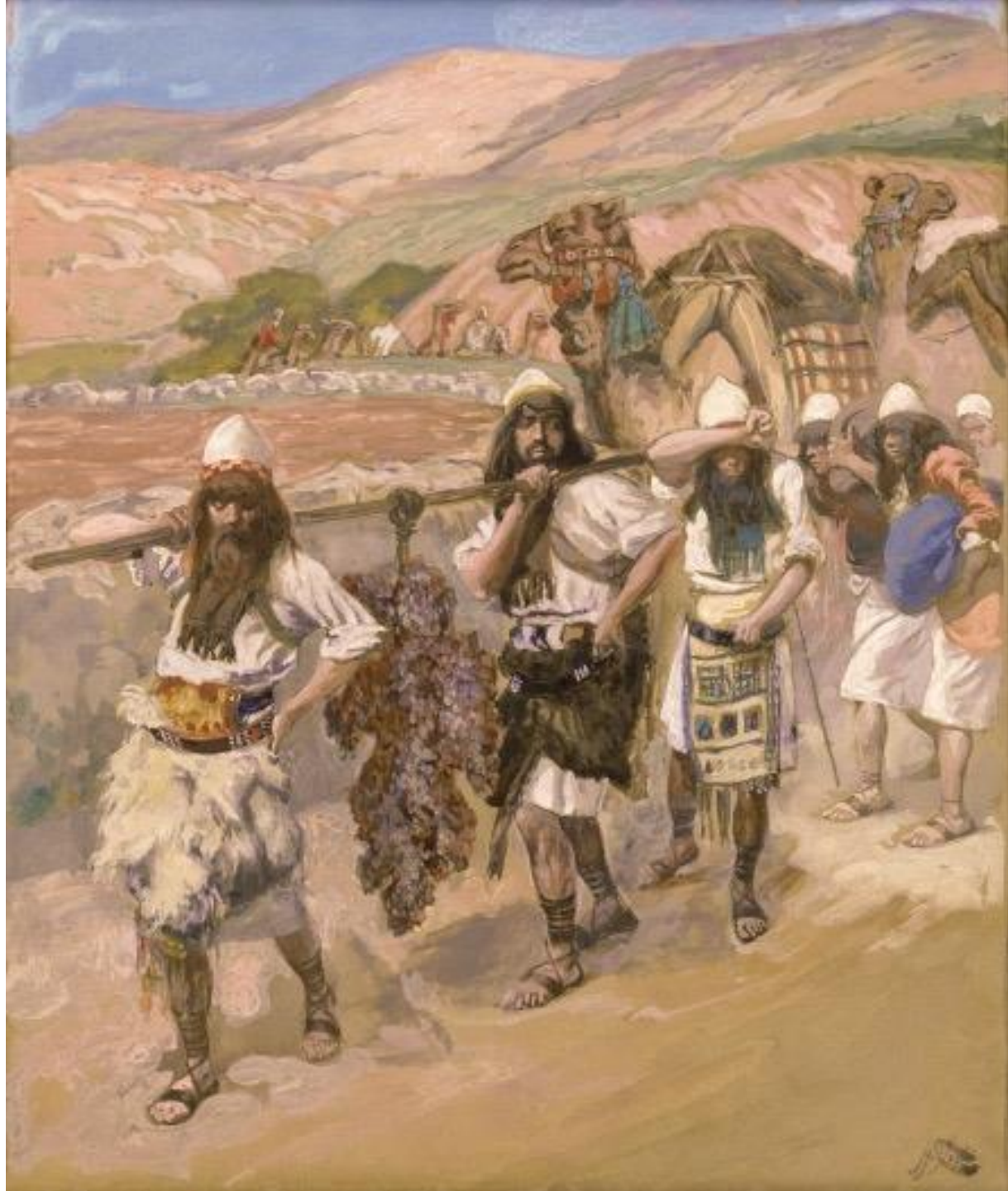


Vines

A Land of Grapes...



A Land of Grapes





Syrian border area



Hebron area

Main grape growing regions of Israel





A Land of Grapes

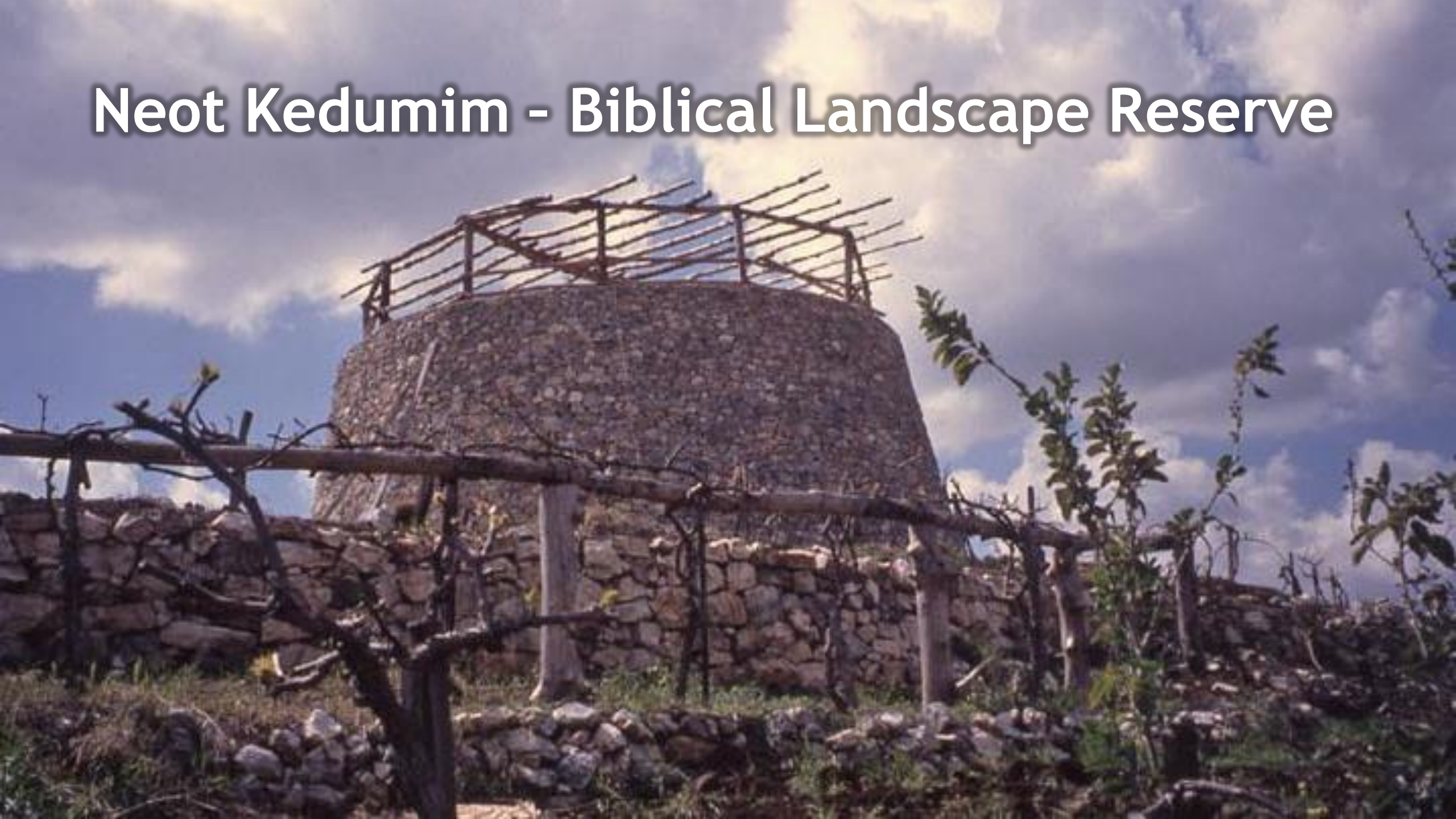
- ▶ Most popular variety: *soreq* which was a special dark red grape
- ▶ Grew in the Soreq Valley in the foothills south-west of Jerusalem
- ▶ Need at least 16-17°C in summer
- ▶ Extremely sensitive to water - just the right amount at the right time
- ▶ Need heat for ripening
- ▶ Need care by fertilising, dusting/painting with bitumen, pruning, training







Neot Kedumim - Biblical Landscape Reserve



Where vines were grown

1. Vineyards on hillsides

- ▶ south facing, good drainage, wall with thorns (Isa 5:1-2, 4-6)
- ▶ Cuttings planted about 2.5-3m apart (plough between them)
- ▶ Trellised or forked stick support, or climbed on trees

2. Mixed grove with other fruit trees (Song 6:11)

3. Beside a house (Psa 128:3) - most houses had their own trellised vines

Vine in planted vineyards

An aerial photograph of a vineyard in Lachish, Israel. The image shows a large, terraced vineyard with rows of grapevines planted in a grid pattern on a hillside. The vines are green and appear to be in the early stages of growth. A dirt road or path runs through the middle of the vineyard, separating the rows. In the background, there is a dense line of trees and a clear sky. The foreground shows some dry, brownish vegetation and a stone wall.

Grapevines, Lachish

Vine in planted vineyards

An aerial photograph of a vast vineyard in Lachish, Israel. The image shows numerous long, straight rows of grapevines stretching across a hilly landscape. The vines are covered in dense green leaves, with some showing signs of ripening. A dirt road or path runs along the left side of the vineyard. In the background, a concrete wall or fence line is visible, followed by a sandy area and some sparse vegetation. The overall scene is well-maintained and organized.

Grapevines, Lachish

A photograph of a terraced vineyard on a hillside. The grapevines are in various stages of autumn, with many leaves turned yellow and some still green. The vines are trained along stone walls that form the terraces. In the background, a rocky hill rises, and a power line tower is visible on the left. The text "Vine in planted vineyards" is overlaid in white on the lower left portion of the image.

Vine in planted vineyards



Vine in planted vineyards

Vine as part of a garden



Grape arbor, Neot Kedumim

A photograph of a garden featuring a large, leafy vine arbor supported by wooden posts. The arbor is situated over a set of stone steps that lead up a hill. A low stone wall runs along the side of the path. In the background, there are more trees and a clear sky. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The text "Vine as part of a garden" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

Vine as part of a garden

Grapevine, Yad HaShmonah

Vine as part of a garden

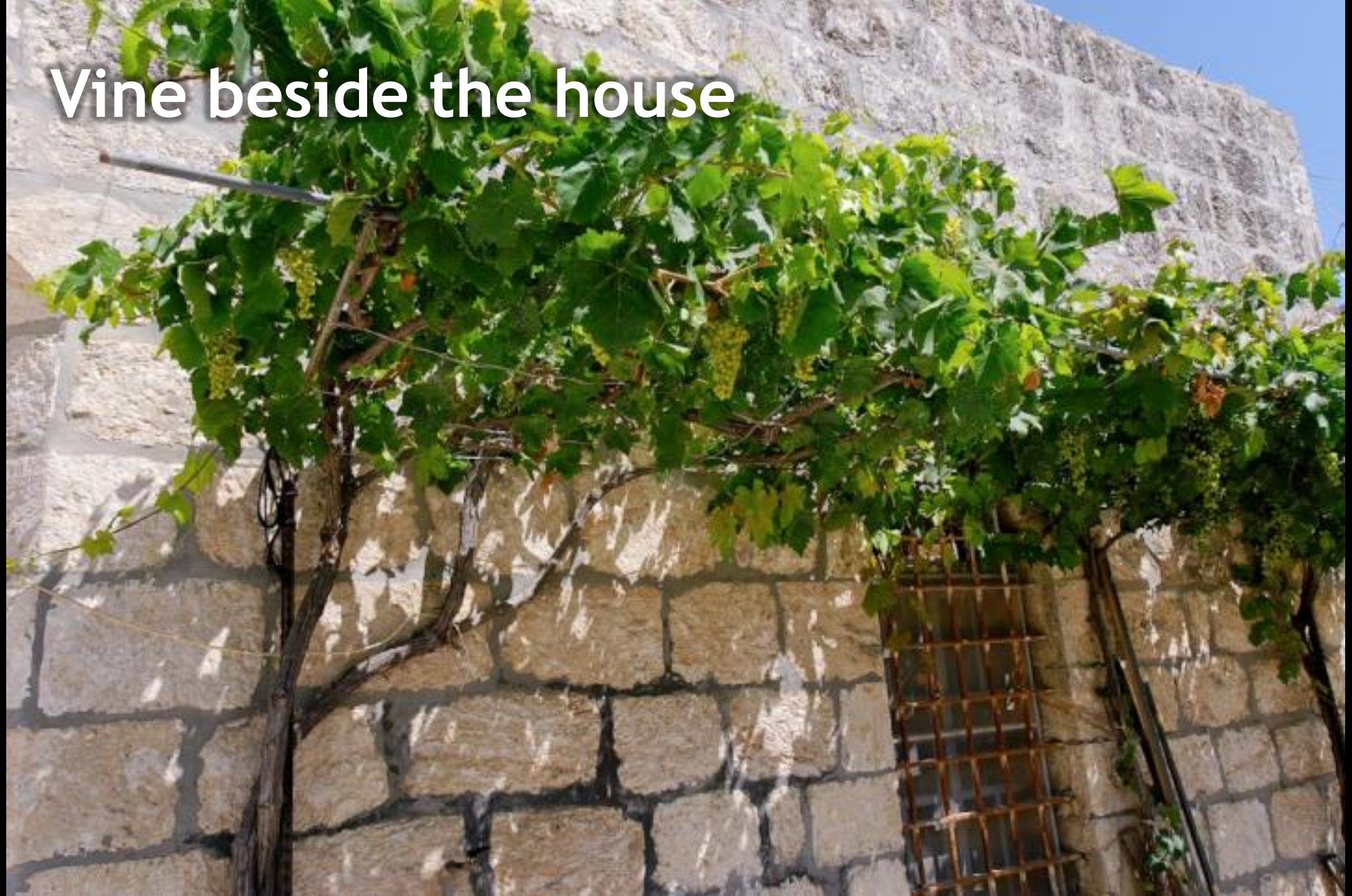


Grape arbor from above in Armenian Quarter

Vine beside the house



Vine beside the house



The vine in Scripture

KJV	Usual Hebrew	Implied meaning (Strong's)
Vine	<i>gephen</i>	Twining, from a root meaning “to bend”
Choice (noble) vine	<i>soreq</i> , <i>sorequah</i>	A vine yielding purple grapes - the choicest variety
Vineyard	<i>kerem</i>	Garden or vineyard

Vineyard is the “Israel of God”

Isa 5:1-7

- ▶ God-established
- ▶ Fertile, well-prepared (nothing lacking on God’s part)
- ▶ Chose the best stock from which to form it (the faith of the patriarchs)
- ▶ Protected with a hedge and wall (enemies subdued)
- ▶ Watchtowers provided (prophets? Eze 3:17, Hab 2:1)
- ▶ Winepress dug (to see the end product)



Vineyard is the “Israel of God”

- ▶ Despite all of this, WILD grapes (NIV “bad fruit”) were produced
- ▶ Fruit - yes, but not according to the stock
- ▶ Jer 2:21 CJB *But I planted you as a choice vine of seed fully tested and true. How did you degenerate into a wild vine for me?*



Full but empty

Hos 10:1 YLT

- An empty vine [is] Israel,
Fruit he maketh like to
himself, According to the
abundance of his fruit, He
hath multiplied for the
altars, According to the
goodness of his land, They
have made goodly standing-
pillars.



Song of Moses Prophecy


Deut 32:28, 32-33

- ▶ For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them.
- ▶ ...For their vine is of the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah: their grapes are grapes of **gall**, their clusters are **bitter**: Their wine is the **poison** of dragons, and the **cruel venom** of asps.



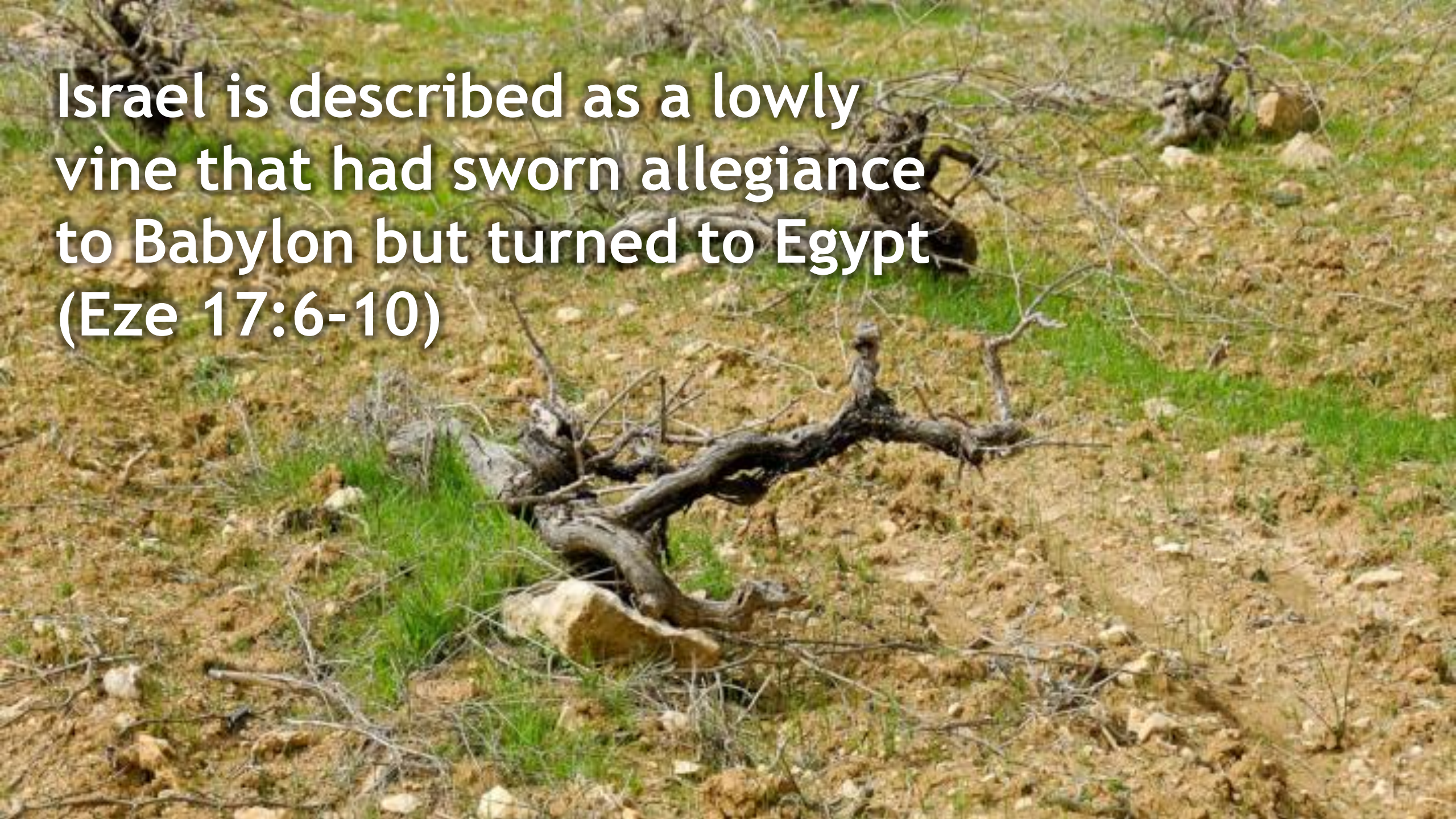
The vine of Sodom may refer to a small shrub called *Solanum sodomaeum* (common in the Dead Sea area)



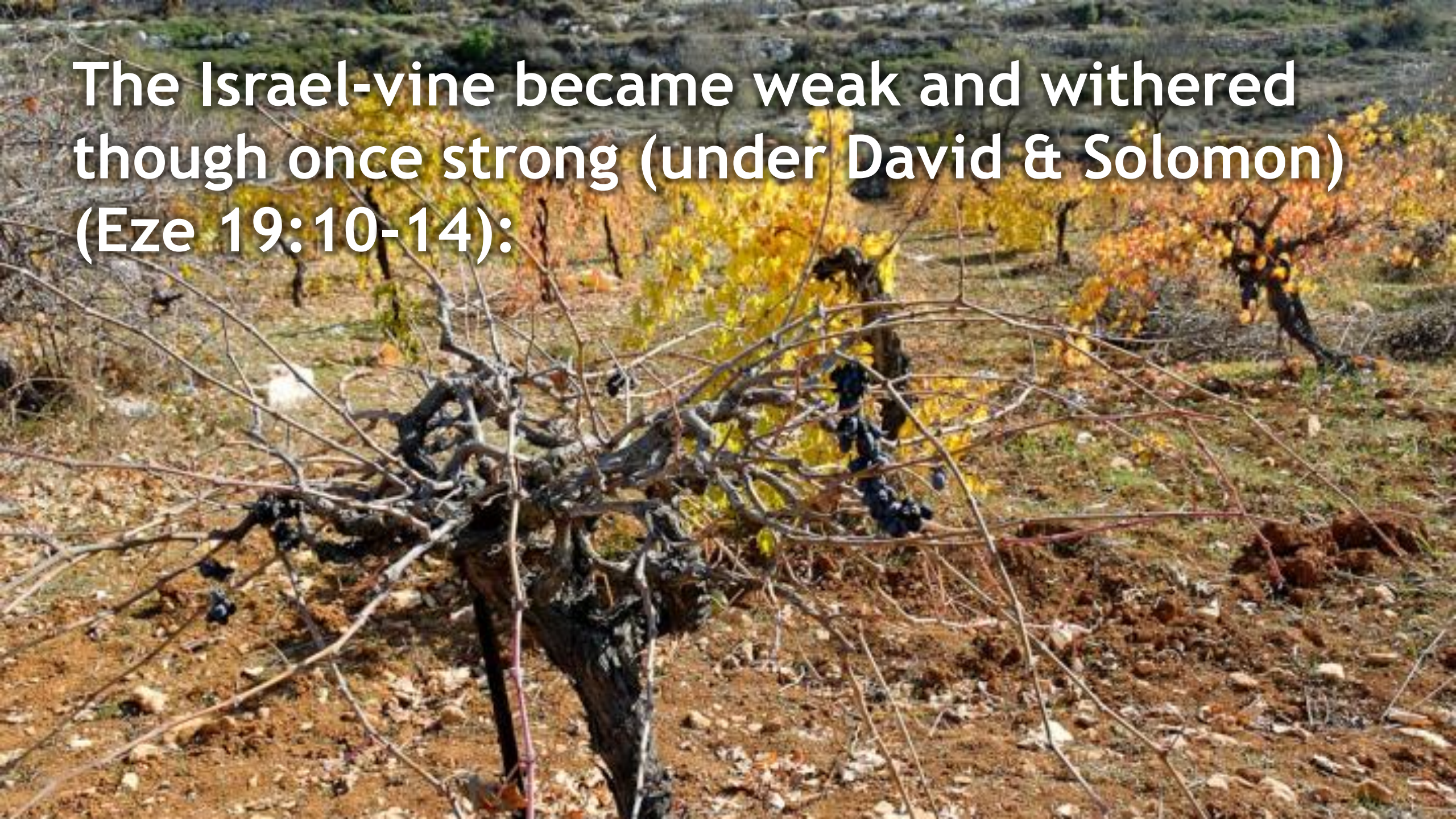
A photograph of a vineyard during autumn. The vines are covered in yellow and orange leaves, indicating they are ready for harvest. In the foreground, there is a large pile of harvested grapes and leaves on the reddish-brown soil. A wooden trellis structure is visible in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

The Israel-vine was useless
except for burning, as it
produced no good fruit
(Eze 15:2-6)

Israel is described as a lowly
vine that had sworn allegiance
to Babylon but turned to Egypt
(Eze 17:6-10)



**The Israel-vine became weak and withered
though once strong (under David & Solomon)
(Eze 19:10-14):**



The Vineyard in the Gospels

- ▶ Husbandmen - tenant farmers
- ▶ It is about *God's* beloved (Song 5:1 cf. Luke 20:13) and *God's* vineyard
- ▶ Connection with Hosea 10:1 - as tenant farmers their duty was to deliver the fruit to the vineyard owner [God]
- ▶ But scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees and Herodians didn't tend the vine, rather used it for self-aggrandisement, authority & self-benefit
- ▶ Romans purged out the vine of Israel in AD70 leaving the work of the vineyard to others

The butler's dream: a prophecy of release from Egypt - physical and spiritual

Vine - Natural Israel	Vine - Spiritual Israel
Released from Egyptian bondage	Released from the bondage of sin & death
Some condemned, dying in the wilderness	Some condemned and ejected from the judgment seat of Christ
Nation raised to a position of honour and service in the Land of Promise	Saints inheriting the Kingdom given positions of honour and service



Psalm 80

- ▶ Theme: the fruitful Son of man and the future restoration of Israel
- ▶ God's **care** for the Israel vine in bringing them **out of Egypt** and **planting** them in the Promised Land (v8-11)
- ▶ Because of disobedience God **removes the vine's protection** and allows the wild beasts (other nations) to attack and destroy it (v12-13)
- ▶ The psalmist then calls upon God to **revisit His vine** and revive it (v14-19)
- ▶ The work of redemption for God's vine is to be brought about by the man of God's right hand, **the Son of man** made strong - (v17-18)



Psalm 80

Psalm 80	Joseph's Blessing in Gen 49
V1 Shepherd of Israel	V24 The Shepherd, the stone of Israel
V11 Boughs and branches spread forth from the sea (Mediterranean) to the River (Euphrates)	V22 Fruitful (Joseph) bough (=son by a well) and branches (=daughters) that run over a wall
V15 The branch You made strong for Yourself	V24 The arms of his hands were made strong
V17 The man of Your right hand... the Son of man	V27 Benjamin = Son of the right hand

Grapevine over wall - Armenian Quarter



John 15:1-8

- ▶ The True Vine (= real, ideal, genuine)
- ▶ Vine stock - solid and supporting, outlasts branches
- ▶ Branches - weak and dependent (need pruning)
have to bare fruit or be purged

John 15:1-8

The Shepherd of Israel Psa 80:1	The Good Shepherd
Joseph, fruitful bough (v1, Gen 49:22) = “added”, Ephraim = “doubly fruitful v2	Jesus, the True Vine Much fruit (John 12:24, 15:5)
Vine out of Egypt & planted in the Land (v8) Israel, “My son” called out of Egypt (Hos 11:1)	”Out of Egypt have I called My Son” (Mat 2:15)
The vine... the stock... planted... son (AV = branch)... reared for Thyself (v14-15 RSV)	The root out of dry ground (Isa 53:2)
Punished (v12-13) for lack of fruit	Suffered wrongfully to bring much fruit (John 12:24)
Benjamin (v2) = Son of the right hand	The Son of Man made strong (Ps 80:17)
Give us life... restore us... that we may be saved (v18-19 RSV)	The resurrection of Jesus
The third day He will raise us up (Hos 6:1-2)	Raised up the 3 rd day
Your fruit is found in Me (Hos 14:8)	He shall see his offering... He shall see the travail of his soul (Isa 53:10-11 RSV)

A song of future rejoicing

Isa 27:2,6

In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine [“a vineyard of delight] (also see Deut 32:14 - same word for red wine).

He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.



Gen 49:10-12

The sceptre shall not depart from Judah,
nor a lawgiver from between his feet, **until
Shiloh come**; and unto him shall the
gathering of the people be.

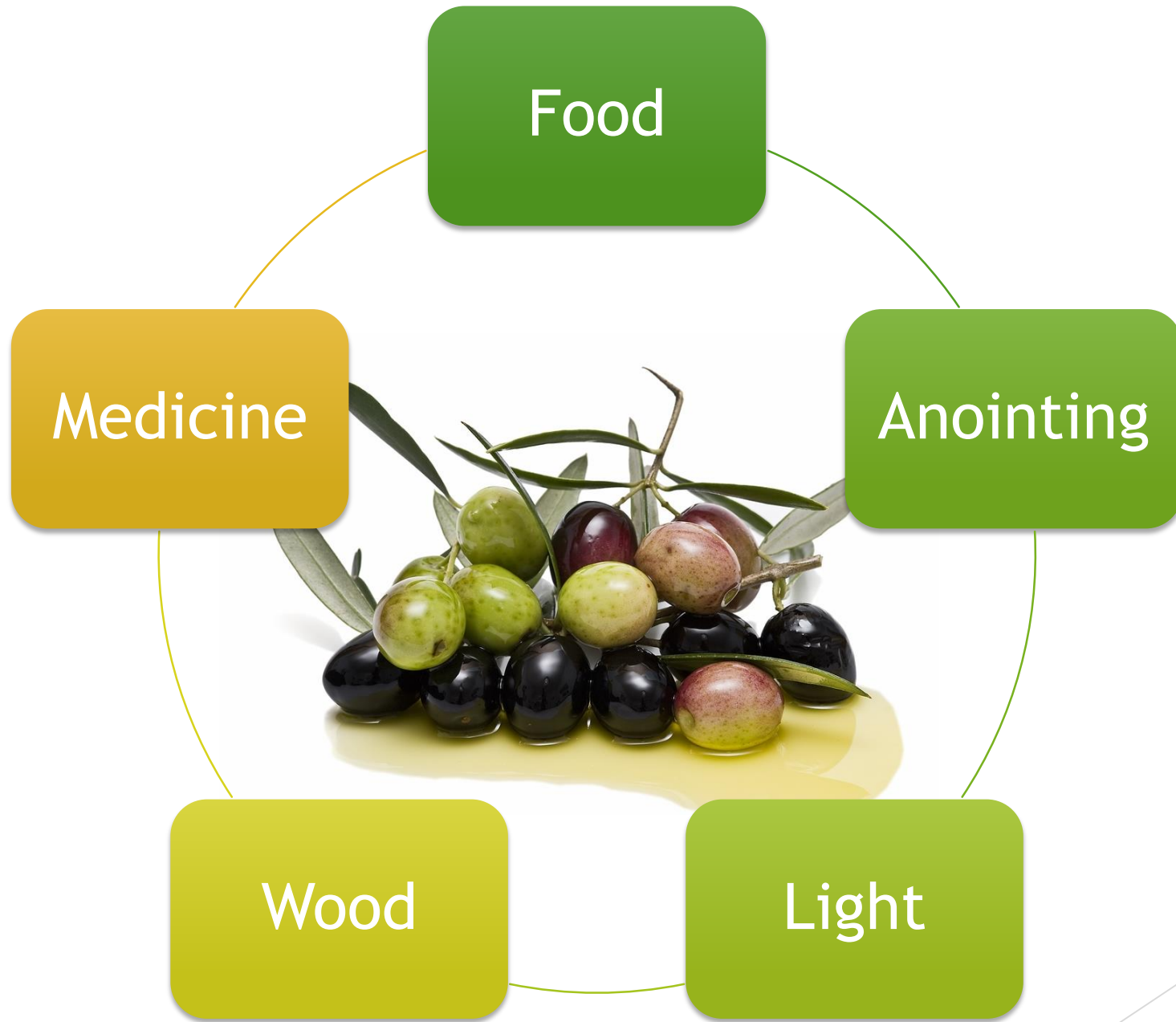
**Binding his foal unto the vine, and his
ass's colt unto the choice vine**; he washed
his garments in wine, and his clothes in the
blood of grapes:

His eyes shall be red with wine, and his
teeth white with milk.



A photograph of an olive grove. In the foreground, a large, gnarled olive tree trunk is prominent on the left. The ground is covered in green grass with dappled sunlight and shadows from the trees. Other olive trees are visible in the background, creating a sense of depth. The text "Olive Trees" is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

Olive Trees



Environment

- ▶ Grow well in shallow, well-drained rocky soil and need little water (doesn't compete with other crops)
- ▶ Grow best in warm areas - average 15°C
- ▶ Older trees can withstand temperatures of -11°C but a young tree will die at -7°C
- ▶ Need 600-2400 hours a year below 7°C in order to give fruit
- ▶ Can withstand drought of up to 5-6 months provided they get good winter rain





Planting & care

- ▶ Planted in olive groves alongside vineyards and grain fields (often higher up slopes - drier)
- ▶ Planted beside houses
- ▶ Don't need much tending but if well tended, produce much more fruit
- ▶ Can live to 700 years or more [some estimated at nearly 4000 years old]

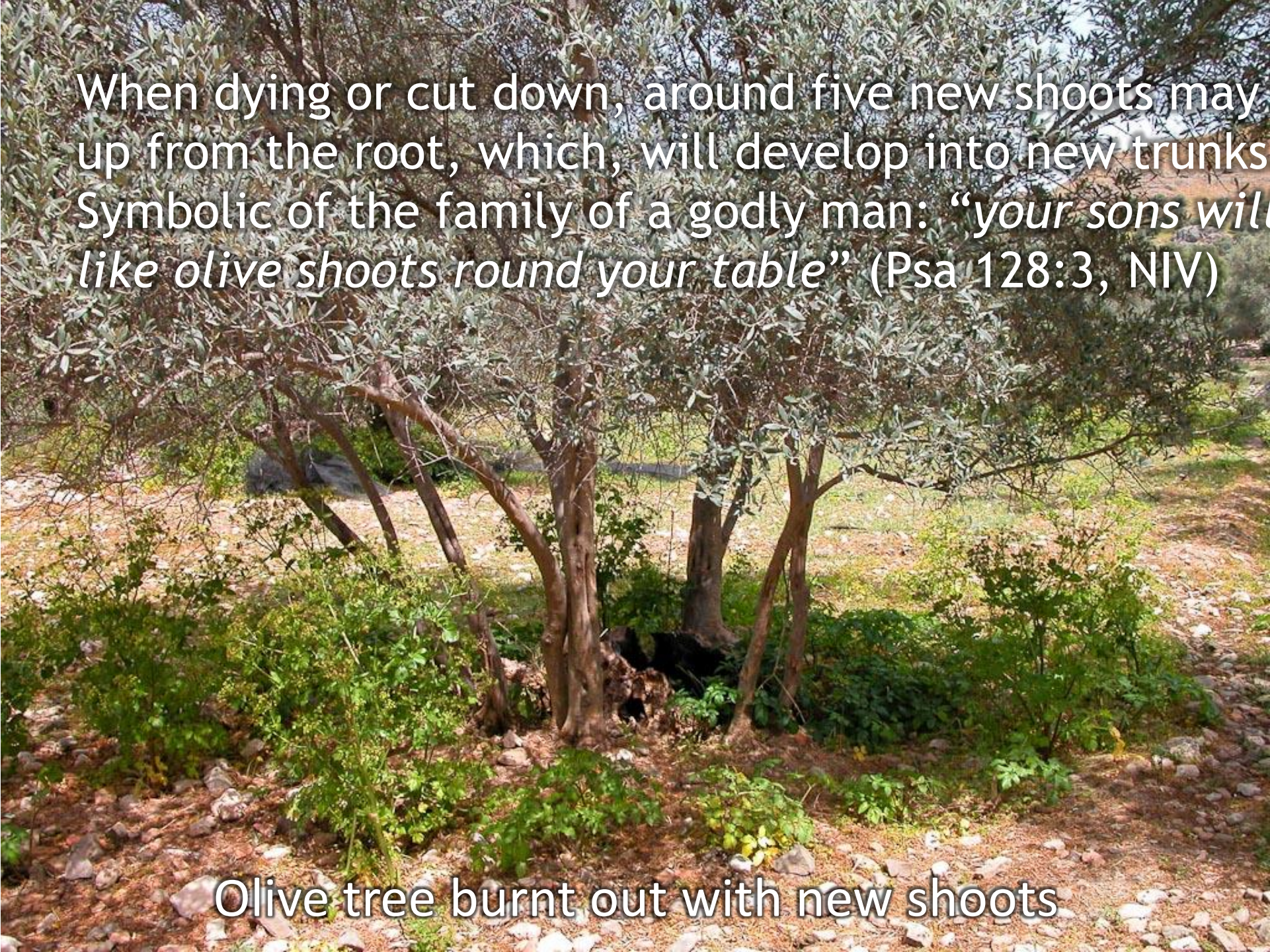




Olive trees on terraces in Ephraim hill country

When dying or cut down, around five new shoots may spring up from the root, which, will develop into new trunks. Symbolic of the family of a godly man: “*your sons will be like olive shoots round your table*” (Psa 128:3, NIV)

Olive tree burnt out with new shoots



Cultivation

- ▶ Cultivated olive trees were grown by inserting a graft from a cultivated tree into a wild olive which was then cut down to the ground.
- ▶ The roots go down deeply into the ground and often send up new shoots - hence planted 10m apart
- ▶ These shoots were then grafted into stocks (improves even fruitful olive stock)
- ▶ Creamy-white blossoms with deeper yellow centres appear on the tree in spring and the petals falling to the ground seem like snowflakes
- ▶ Slow growing - takes 10-15 years to grow to maturity producing plentiful olives & do so for centuries
- ▶ Fully grown 5-8m high, trunk of 1m wide, gnarled bark and dull green leaves which take on a silvery sheen in the sunlight



Grafted olive branch



Grafted olive branch



Grafted olive branch



Olive buds on tree, Beth Shean



Olive tree blossoms



Olive grove near Bethlehem

Harvesting

- ▶ Blossom in May, ripen slowly from green to black for harvest in Autumn (Sep-Oct) after first rains
- ▶ Ground underneath the trees is ploughed to let the air get to the roots
- ▶ Harvested onto cloth spread below trees
 - ▶ By hand
 - ▶ Beaten with sticks (Deut 24:20)
 - ▶ Shaken
- ▶ One tree could produce about 75 litres of oil



x75

The GREEN olive tree

- ▶ Leaves not particularly green
- ▶ Shimmering beauty (Hos 14:6)
- ▶ Described in Scripture as a “green olive tree” - Israel before departing from God’s ways (Jer 11:16-17)
- ▶ Clue: David contrasts himself with the ungodly Doeg in Psa 52:8
- ▶ GREEN stands for VIGOUR more than COLOUR



Symbology

- ▶ Nation of Israel - Rom 11:16-24
 - ▶ Many branches supported by one root stock - God
 - ▶ God gave them commands to be healthy and spiritually fruitful
 - ▶ Broken off temporarily so that the Gentiles can partake of the root and fatness (riches) of the olive tree (v17)
 - ▶ In future, they will be restored and “his branches shall spread: his beauty shall be like the olive tree” Hos 14:6
 - ▶ Again, the natural farming methods are overturned - normally cultivated wood is grafted into wild rootstock - not the other way around (Rom 11v24 - “contrary to nature”)



Olive tree with branch recently cut off



Olive wood pile, Beit Jimal

Olive oil

- ▶ Extracted by
 - ▶ crushing in a stone press
 - ▶ pestle and mortar
- ▶ Only 5 occurrences of the words “olive oil” (AV ‘oil olive’) in Scripture, but most frequently used oil in Bible times
- ▶ Therefore “oil” = olive oil
- ▶ UNIQUE characteristic:
Hebrew word for olive (*zayith*) carries the underlying idea of **illumination**,
to shine



Olive press



Olive oil - daily uses

Purpose	Reference
Anointing the body after a bath	2 Sam 12:20, Psa 104:15
Medicinal	Isa 1:6, Luke 10:34
Preparation of food	1 Kings 17:12-16
Fuel for lamps	Matt 25:1-13





Olive oil for anointing

Use	Reference
Jacob anointed a pillar at Bethel	Gen 28:18, 31:13
Holy anointing oil	Exo 30:24-25
Anointing oil for the high priest & sons	Exo 29:7, 30:30
Anointed unleaved wafers	Exo 29:2, Num 6:15
Anointing of kings	1 Sam 10:1, 16:13, 1 Kings 1:39
Anointing the sick	Mark 6:13, Jas 5:14

Olive oil for burning

Preparation & patience needed

- ▶ tree tending & long slow growth

Fruit needed

- ▶ many years, much care to develop

Effort needed

- ▶ pure oil of beaten (or pressed, NKJV) olives, brought by the people

Light needed

- ▶ seven lamps of the golden lampstand to give light in the holy place (Exo 25:6; 27:20,21, 2 Chron 4:7,20)



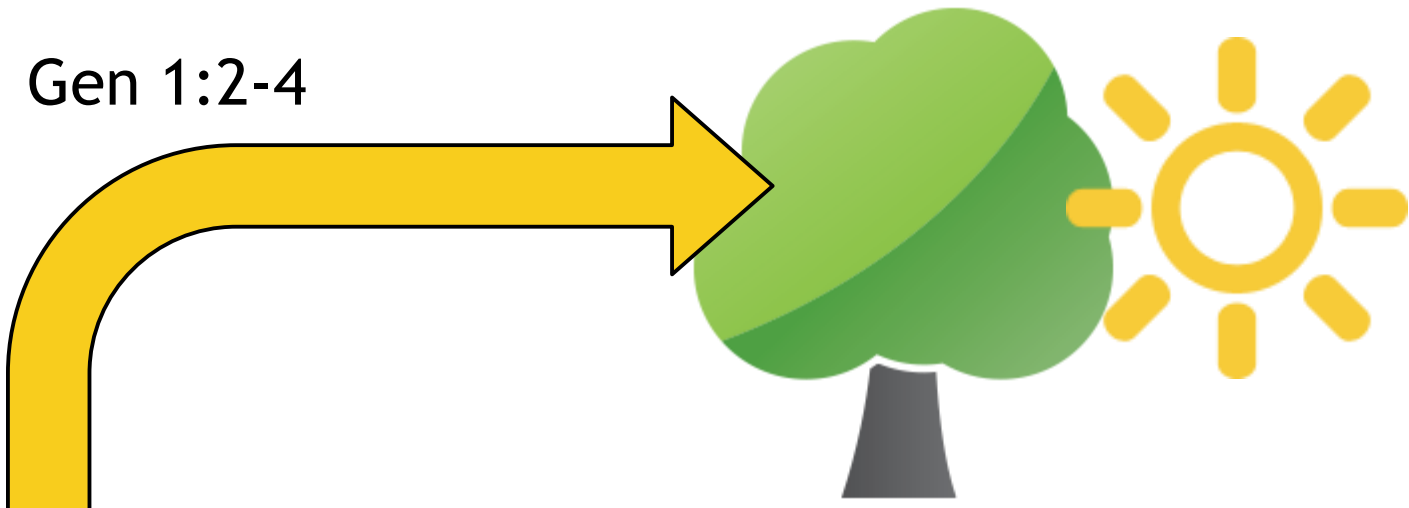
Slow and painstaking extraction of LIGHT-PRODUCING OIL from God's Word for guidance through spiritual illumination (Eph 1:8, Psa 119:105, John 8:12, John 6:63) - for us ourselves and to "*shine before men*"



2 Cor 4:6 NKJV

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ

Gen 1:2-4



Day 1	Day 2	Day 3a	Day3b	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6a	Day 6b	Day 7
LIGHT	ATMOSPHERE	EARTH & WATER	PLANTS	VISIBLE LIGHTS	AQUATIC & AVIAN LIFE	EARTH LIFE	HUMAN LIFE	REST
Day	Beneath	Dry Land	Grasses	Sun	Fish	Cattle	Male	
Night	Above	Seas	Herb Trees	Moon	Fowl	Creeping Beasts	Female	
				Stars				

Zechariah 4



The Two Olive Trees & the Sons of Oil

Zechariah 4	Kingdom
Zechariah wakened from sleep v1	Millennium and resurrection
Gold (enduring) v2	Immortality after tried faith (1 Pet 1:7)
Gold lampstand v2	Jesus - the light of the world (John 8:12)
Golden bowl oil reservoir v2	Christ, the anointed one, Spirit without measure (John 3:34)
Seven lamps v2	Perfect ecclesia (Matt 13:43), Spirit of God manifested in Christ & saints (Rev 4:5), nations walk in the light (Isa 62:1-2, Hab 2:14, Rev 21:23-24)
Two olive trees v3	The restored nation of Israel (Hos 14:6) and Gentile nations (Rom 11:16-24)
Two olive branches (clusters) v12	Jewish and Gentile saints, the True Israel of God
Two anointed ones to serve the Lord of the earth v14	Anointed as Kings and Priests of age to come
Sons of (fresh) oil v14 (margin)	Sons of God born of the oil of the Word, and the Spirit of Truth, (1 Pet 1:22-25, 1 Cor 15:44)
Two golden pipes v12	Incorruptible saints as bearers of oil of Truth to the nations
Golden, pure, bright-burning oil v12	Light to the nations, who produce oil, in-turn back to God (Matt 5:16, Psa 37:6)



Olive wood

Booths for Feast of Tabernacles (Neh 8:15)

For the Temple of Solomon (symbolic of future Kingdom)

- ▶ Doors of the inner sanctuary (1 Kings 6:31,32)
- ▶ Doorposts of the door between the porch and the holy place (v 33)
- ▶ Two cherubim in the most holy place (v 23)

Concluding thoughts

Joel 2:21-26

- ▶ 21 Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things.
- ▶ 22 Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.
- ▶ 23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.
- ▶ 24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- ▶ ...
- ▶ 26 And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

1 Cor 3:5-9 CJB

...Indeed, it was the Lord who brought you to trust through one of us or through another.

I planted the seed, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow.

So neither the planter nor the waterer is anything, only God who makes things grow — planter and waterer are the same.

However, **each will be rewarded according to his work.**



The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern, layered effect. The shapes are concentrated on the left and right sides, leaving a large white central area.

AMEN