

There's more to the story (Jesus, the true Israel of God, wilderness journey)

### **Jesus is the true Vine, the true Israel of God**

- In John 15:1, when Jesus states He is the true Vine, He is claiming to be the true Israel of God.
- Israel was referred to as the vine or vineyard in the Old Testament: Isaiah 3:13-15, 5:1-7, 27:1-6, Jeremiah 2:21, Psalm 80:1-14.

### **Out of Egypt**

- Israel who is referred by the Lord as "my son" (Exodus 4:21-22) was called out of Egypt after they were set free from slavery.
- Jesus was taken to Egypt after His birth to escape the wicked king Herod (Matthew 2:13-15) and after the death of Herod, He left Egypt to be the greater fulfillment of the Son called out of Egypt in Hosea 11:1.
  - Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a youth I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son.

### **Passed through the water**

- After Israel was set free from slavery and called out of Egypt, they passed through the waters of the Red Sea (Exodus 14) which symbolizes being baptized.
- Before Jesus is led into the wilderness for testing and to be tempted, He is baptized by John the Baptist (Matthew 3:13-17).

### **Tempted in the wilderness**

- After passing through the water, both the nation of Israel and the true Israel of God into the wilderness to be tested (Matthew 4:1-11).
- The Israelites failed in their wilderness testing, but the true Israel of God did not fail.

### **Length of time in the wilderness**

- The Israelites were in the wilderness for 40 years (Joshua 5:6)(Deut 8:1-2)
- The true Israel of God, Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days (Matthew 4:1-2).

### **The Law**

- The Law was given in the wilderness to the Israelites and they failed to keep it perfectly.
- Jesus, the true Israel of God kept the Law perfectly and met the requirements of the Law so that all who believe in Him by faith would have the perfect requirement of the Law imputed to them (Romans 8:1-4).

### **Entering the Promised Land**

- The Israelites who believed in faith in the promise of God and were obedient entered the promised land. Those who had unbelief did not enter the promised land in the Old Testament (Hebrews 3:18-19).
- All those who believe in faith in Christ, the true Israel of God are in union with Him, will enter the eternal Promised Land which is for Spiritual Israel (Romans 9:6-8).
  - Galatians 6:16 And those who will [a]walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

*The nation of Israel was led out of Egypt, passed through the water, led into the wilderness to be tempted, failed in their temptation and testing, and failed to keep the law perfectly. Christ, the true Israel of God came of Egypt, was baptized in the Jordan river, tempted in the wilderness but did not sin, and then succeeded in keeping the Law perfectly. As a result of our union with the true Israel of God, the true Servant of God, the true Vine which is Christ we are regarded as spiritual Israel and will inherit the true promised land forever!*

There's more to the story!!!

