

Brian Hall's Sermon Notes

Is there any meaning to life?

2 Corinthians 6:1

As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain.

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹ I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. ³ Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? ⁵ Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it. ⁷ The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are the garden of his delight. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Luke 3:8-9

Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

John 15

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

Is there any meaning to life outside of myself?

Your answer to that question will depend upon your worldview.

Your worldview, your perspective on life, will be determined by the process with which you filter, interpret and respond to

1. the events of life.
2. the experiences of life.
3. the barrage of information that comes your way.

The church now finds itself in a world of conflicting worldviews.

In a world of conflicting worldviews

1. The church that undermines the authority of the Bible becomes a church in crisis.
2. The church that resists the grace of God becomes a church in crisis.

Isaiah Chapter 5 identifies six clusters of "bad grapes" that result from a pattern of life that resists the grace of God

1. Greed (verses 8-10)
2. Excess (verses 11-17)
3. Cynicism (verses 18-19)
4. Perversion (verse 20)
5. Pride (verse 21)
6. Corruption (verses 22-25)

Jesus said, "I am the true vine." (John Chapter 15 verses 1-8)

The real meaning to life is found outside of myself.

The real meaning to life is found in relationship with Jesus Christ.