

Matt 21:33-44 Week 70

The Parable of the Lord and His Vineyard

Matt 21:33 "Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. 34 When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. 35 "The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. 36 Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. 37 Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. 38 "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' 39 So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. 40 "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" 41 "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time." 42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? 43 "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. 44 He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed." 45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them. 46 They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

He threatened them further with another parable, the second in a trilogy of judgment parables which even more graphically illustrated their willful _____ of God.

The Vineyard

- Vineyard life is not so easy. The owner had to cultivate the soil just as the Lord cultivates the _____ of man to prepare him for truth.
- Landowners and vineyards were _____ in that agricultural society and were easy for His hearers to identify with.
- God, in His _____ and grace, does what He does for the good of His vineyard...us.
- God is obviously the owner of the vineyard.
- Who does the vineyard represent? _____
- Who are the _____ of the vineyard? _____ and rulers and _____ of Israel.

- "They will _____ my son." To the contrary, however, that act simply drove the growers to greater _____ and more heinous treachery.
- It was the very uncommonness of the owner's _____, and of the growers' _____, that Jesus wanted His hearers to notice.
- Ok, if God is the landowner, what is Jesus claiming to be here? That He is the _____.
- How does this apply to us today and to them in that day?
- Jesus knew that He was God's _____ to all men and to all future generations.
- Jesus was God's last _____ in His quiver to draw all men to God.
- They, no doubt, were highly pleased with this unusual opportunity to parade their _____ before Jesus.
- They were completely unaware that, as they fed their pride on Jesus' baited question, they sprang the trap of their own _____.
- What is Jesus saying here? He is predicting his own death and _____ by the religious of that day.
- He is also fulfilling the _____ of the Old Testament.

Isa 28:16 So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation the one who trusts will never be dismayed.

Ps 118:22 The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; 23 the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

- He is showing the true nature of _____ that rejects God's will.
- It is the _____ of the life of His church. We build on this truth: He is the _____ and _____. He is the cornerstone of all we believe and trust in, and it's marvelous in God's eyes.

The Warning

The judgments for _____ and lack of _____ leave no room for recovery, and utter ruin awaits those who reject the stone.