

PARABLE OF THE TENANTS  
(Matthew 21:33-46)

- I. The ILLUSTRATION of Jewish Leaders (Matt. 21:33-39)
  - A. Described the PREPARATION of a landowner's VINEYARD
    - 1. He PLANTED it
    - 2. He SECURED it with a WALL and a TOWER
    - 3. He EQUIPPED it with its own WINEPRESS
    - 4. He RENTED it to stewards to TEND it
    - 5. He arranged for COLLECTING his PRODUCE
  - B. Described the EVIL of the landowner's VINE-GROWERS
    - 1. To steal the PRODUCE, they ABUSED and MURDERED the landowner's SERVANTS
    - 2. To steal the VINEYARD, they EJECTED and MURDERED the landowner's SON
- II. The INTERROGATION of Jewish Leaders (Matt. 21:40-42)
  - A. The FIRST question
    - 1. Jesus asked "What will the landowner DO to those VINE-GROWERS?"

2. They said he would PUNISH them and REPLACE them with RELIABLE stewards
- B. The SECOND question
1. Jesus asked, “Did you NEVER READ in the Scriptures?...” and quoted Psalm 118:22-23
    - a. In general, a prophecy concerning ISRAEL
    - b. In particular, a prophecy concerning MESSIAH
  2. They had NO ANSWER
- III. The CONDEMNATION of Jewish Leaders (Matt. 21:43-44)
- A. Announced their coming JUDGMENT
1. The kingdom would be TAKEN from THEM
  2. It would be GIVEN to another people who would PRODUCE its FRUIT
- B. Announced their coming DESTRUCTION
1. Not replacing ISRAEL with the CHURCH
  2. But REMOVING Israel’s religious leaders as God’s MEDIATORS
- IV. The FRUSTRATION of Jewish Leaders (Matt. 21:45-46)
- A. They UNDERSTOOD what He meant
- B. They were not CONVICTED, but ENRAGED
1. They determined to SIEZE Him
  2. They FEARED the PEOPLE