

THE GOSPEL OF MARK "rejected"

VINEYARD

- *The vine or vineyard as an image for Israel in its relation to God is seen throughout the Old Testament.. Psalm 80:1-18, Isaiah 27:2-6, Jeremiah 2:21, 12:10, Ezekiel 19:10-14, Hosea 10:1
- *But verse 1 echoes the introduction of Isaiah's song of the vineyard in Isaiah 5:1-2. An allegory, explicitly drawn out, of God's disappointment with his people.

GENEROSITY & TRUST OF THE LANDOWNER

- *The vineyard was equipped with everything the farmers would need to have a productive crop. No expense was spared.
- *The owner left and trusted them to take care of it and abide by the agreements made.

THE ABSURDITY OF THE LANDOWNER & THE TENANTS

- *Sending servant after servant after servant. Correlation with God sending prophet after prophet.
- *The sending of the servants and their callous rejection is found often in the OT. Jeremiah 7:25-26, Nehemiah 9:26, 2 Chronicles 36:15-16, 24:18-19.
- *God had sent many prophets while many were rejected and ill-treated some of them also were killed. Jeremiah 26:20-23, 2 Chronicles 24:20-22, Matthew 23:34, 37.
- *The tradition of the martyrdoms of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Micah and Amos and of course John the Baptist.
- *God's longsuffering or "God's blessed idiocy of grace." Hosea 2:2, 14-20, Jeremiah 3:11-14
- *"whom he loved" echoes the voice from Heaven at the beginning of the gospel and in the middle. Mark 1:11, 9:7

Mark 12:1-12 (NIV)

⁽¹⁾ He then began to speak to them in parables: "A man planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a pit for the winepress and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. ⁽²⁾ At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. ⁽³⁾ But they seized him, beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ⁽⁴⁾ Then he sent another servant to them; they struck this man on the head and treated him shamefully. ⁽⁵⁾ He sent still another, and that one they killed. He sent many others; some of them they beat, others they killed. ⁽⁶⁾ "He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ⁽⁷⁾ "But the tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ⁽⁸⁾ So they took him and killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁽⁹⁾ "What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others. ⁽¹⁰⁾ Haven't you read this scripture: "'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; ⁽¹¹⁾ the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'" ⁽¹²⁾ Then they looked for a way to arrest him because they knew he had spoken the parable against them. But they were afraid of the crowd; so they left him and went away.

Isaiah 5:1-2 (NIV)

⁽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.

LANDOWNER'S JUSTICE

- *God is love but that is not all He is.
- *Judgment and Justice will come in the end.
- *Isaiah 65:2-3, 7, 8-16

LANDOWNER'S OPTIMISM

- *Gives the vineyard to others
- *Church can't get prideful—Romans 11:11-21

REJECTED STONE

- *Psalm 118:22-23
- *The Capstone is the most important stone in the building. Ephesians 2:20, 1 Peter 2:6.
- *In Rabbinic literature scribes and scholars are sometimes referred to as 'builders.'
- *The word of rejected is *apodokimazo* which simply means "to put to the test for the purpose of approving." Israel was looking for a Messiah. Jesus claimed to be the Messiah. The leaders of Israel investigated his claims, found them to be true, substantiated by the miracles he performed (John 3:20), yet with all this evidence, rejected Him as Messiah because He did not meet their specifications. They were looking for a Messiah that would deliver them from Rome not from sin.
- *Passage has parallel verse to go with it. Acts 4:11, 1 Peter 2:4-7, Romans 9:32-33, 8:31.

Psalm 118:22-23 (NIV)

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

"MARVELOUS"

- *The death of Jesus was a divine necessity not a great tragedy but the plan from the beginning. Mark 8:31.

REVIEW

- *The Generosity of God
- *The Trust of God
- *The Patience of God
- *The Justice of God
- *The Plan of God

NOTES:

CHRISTOLOGY

- *The Son was not one of the servants.
- *Jesus is not just another prophet (Islam)
- *Deity of Jesus—Landowner is God—the son is Jesus therefore Jesus is the Son of God.
- *The death of Jesus was a divine necessity
- * **Philippians 2:8-11**