

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE

DISPOSSESSED

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

Matthew 21: 33-46

1. Where are we with Jesus?

In Jerusalem (our Lord's last week, ending with his crucifixion) –

Jesus under fire from Jewish leaders, soon to be joined by the people

The parable is His warning to the Jewish people & their leaders (grace!).

2. The Parable of the Wicked Tenants – vv.33-39

The Owner of the vineyard (God – Israel's covenant Lord)

The tenant farmers (Israel)

What the Owner expects and deserves – “fruits” of love, loyalty,
obedience, pure worship without idolatry.

His servants, the prophets – clear calls to repent & obey

What the tenants (Israel) have repeatedly done -

the longsuffering patience of the faithful God of the covenant

The Owner's Son & what the tenant do to Him.

3. Jesus' Question – the Point – vv.40-44

Jesus puts the question (vs.40) & “they” answer correctly.

a. Application then – vv.42-44

See Psalm 80, Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 118:118:22f (1 Peter 2:6-8)

Jesus opponents “get it” BUT do not repent!

Instead they scheme to destroy Him.

They are responsible for the judgments that come on them.

b. Application since: Who are the people of God?

See Romans 4:12, Gal. 3:26-29 (6:16), Eph. 2:11-22, Phil.3:2f

Answer: ALL who trust in Jesus – Jews & Gentiles –

= ONE people of God (the Church of Christ), NOT two.

4. Applications to Us

a. Be thankful for God's saving plan for the world!

From the beginning, God's plan was to bring His Son into this world through the Jewish people – to be the Savior & Lord of Jews AND Gentiles from the whole world (Rev.5:9,10), See the promise to Abraham (Gen.12:3, 22:18).

b. Do not be presumptuous; hold on to Jesus – or else.

Romans 11:11-24 – God's people as an olive tree

Vs.18 – Do not self-righteously scorn Jews who may have lost their heritage through unbelief.

Vs.21 – Do not presume a place in “the tree”: You are part of the people of God only by faith in Christ; abandon that faith and you also will be cut off –

= a serious warning to church that drift from the Word.