

God's Servant Predicts His Rejection

Mark 12:1-11

Main Idea: Jesus' death brings joyful life to those who love Him, but miserable death to those who reject Him. Jesus will be exalted at the end of the age and His enemies will be severely judged.

Scene 1: The Father plants a vineyard for His glory.

I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. 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.” (Isaiah 5:1-2 [NIV](#))

“... I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

Truth: The Father labors in love for us so that we can enjoy Him and glorify Him.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight” (Ephesians 1:3-8 [ESV](#))

Application: Let us drown out thoughts of self-pity with songs of praise to Him who in love has done all for us.

Scene 2: The Father gives the tenants a great opportunity for vast reward.

Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.” (1 Corinthians 3:12-15 [ESV](#))

“Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.” (2 John 1:8 [ESV](#))

“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.” (Hebrews 11:6 [ESV](#))

Truth: In the church age, every one of us in God's family is given the opportunity to receive vast reward for caring for Jesus' church and managing well the spiritual gifts that the Holy Spirit gives to us.

Scene 3: The Father sends His servants to receive the fruit that is due to Him.

Application: Let us honor the message that God sends to us through His servants. Let us respond to His servants with the knowledge that the message is not the word of man but the very word of God to us.

Scene 4: The tenants treat the Father and His servants with contempt.

Truth: The Bible tells us plainly the true state of our heart. By nature we are enemies of God.

Scene 5: The tenants put the Father's Son to death.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." (John 3:16-17 [ESV](#))

"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8 [ESV](#))

Truth: The crucifixion of Jesus is the greatest sin in all history. No other evil compares to it.

Scene 6: The Father severely judges the wicked tenants.

"Though grace is shown to the wicked, they do not learn righteousness; even in a land of uprightness they go on doing evil and regard not the majesty of the LORD." (Isaiah 26:10 [NIV](#))

Truth: If you are in Christ through faith, your sins are forgiven, your name is written in God's book, you are adopted into God's family and will live forever with Him. EVERYTHING about your eternal future rests upon what you do with God's Son.

Scene 7: The Father makes His Son the center of everything.

Truth: God holds us accountable to read and to understand and to apply the Word that He sends to us!!

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:8-11 [ESV](#))