

THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

Mark 11:27-12:12

Key Verse: 12:1b

"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."

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Read 11:27-33. What had happened previously in Jerusalem? What would happen soon? What was Jesus doing in the temple? (Lk 19:47-48) Why did the religious leaders question Jesus' authority? How did he silence them?
2. Read 12:1-2. To whom and in what context did Jesus tell this parable? How did the owner prepare his vineyard? What then did he do? What did he expect of the tenants? How is this a parable of God's relationship with mankind? With his own people? (Ro 3:2; Mic 4:1,2)
3. Read verses 3-5. When the owner sent his servants to see if the tenants were taking care of the vineyard well, how did they react? Why? Who do the servants represent?
4. Read verse 6. How did the owner respond to the tenants' treatment of his servants? What does this teach about the love of God and the meaning of Christ's coming?
5. Read verses 7-9. How did the tenants respond to the coming of the son? Why? What happened? How do the tenants reveal the misery of an unthankful mind? The misery of a false illusion? The misery of ignoring God's mission?
6. Read verses 10-12. What was Jesus teaching through quoting Psalm 118:22,23? In what respect is Jesus like the rejected stone? (Acts 4:11) How did the religious leaders react? What can we learn about God's sovereignty over history? From Jesus' faith?