

Editorial Thought...

The Parable Of The Tenants...

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."

- Luke 20:17b (ESV) -



Daniel Seay

The Parable of the Tenants (Matthew 21:28-46; Mark 12:1-12; Luke 20:9-19) may not be as commonly known as other parables Jesus told, but it is one of the most eye-opening. It was told to the religious elders who disputed Jesus' teachings and resented Him entering the temple. This parable denotes God, who Jesus is, His purpose, and what He could foresee.

- The landowner – represents God
- The vineyard – His Kingdom
- The tenants – specifically Israel's religious leaders and all who reject Jesus
- The servants – God's prophets and faithful believers
- The beloved son – Jesus Christ

Jesus tells them of a landowner who places his vineyards in the hands of tenant workers. Just as in many regions today, tenant farmers lease the land, care for the crops and reap reward from the harvest with a set amount going to the landowner. The allegory tells us that the landowner sent his servants to collect his share. The servants were beaten, driven away, and some were killed. Finally, the owner sent his beloved only son. The tenants, rejecting the son, killed him as well. Then Jesus asked (in Mark 12:9), *"What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others"*.

Jesus sees the temple ruler's rejection of truth and, thus, acting the same as their ancestors -- killing the prophets (servants) who were sent to correct them and to turn their hearts to God. The characters were easy to identify. Even the chief priests and Pharisees (temple tenants) recognized who Jesus meant. These religious leaders functioned strictly out of tradition and rigid law, with hardened hearts. They had no true love for God. Therefore, they rejected Jesus when He came speaking of grace, love, and forgiveness. They were angered at His non-traditional teachings. They wanted Him silenced so they didn't have to consider their errors and face correction.

In the final verses of this parable, Jesus asked, *"Didn't you ever read in the Scriptures? 'The stone rejected by the builders has now become the Cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous to see'"*. Ephesians 2:20 tells us that Jesus is the chief cornerstone in the structure of God's house (see Psalm 118:22, Isaiah 28:16). In this 'tenants' parable, Jesus is revealing that though the religious leaders reject Him, He is the foundation of the Father's temple (or church of believers).

Many of the world's inhabitants or tenants have rejected God's Son and have failed to work His vineyard. The population of the world (or size of vineyard) has grown and the number of souls to be saved has greatly increased. Ask yourself if you are working the vineyard as God desires. Ask if you are shamefully treating His servants and rejecting His son. *"What do you suppose the owner of the vineyard will do?"*

News And Notes

Our Prayer List

Rob Harris, Susie Moore, Chris Folster, Gwen Gann, LouAnn Gann, Josh Werner, Billye Werner, June Brant, Donna Spader, Rozalyn Boggs, Alice Jones, Diana Nordin, Peggy Tucker's brother Mike Clark, Jeannette Pope, Betsy Pippin, Our Elected Officials and all World Leaders.

"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."
[James 5:16b]

Statistics

For The Week Of May 1st, 2016

Sun3ay Class	12
Sunday AM	16
Sunday PM	dnm
Wednesday PM	5
Contribution	\$662.00
YTD Budget (18 x \$735)	\$13,230.00
Difference Year-To-Date	-\$1007.00
Savings Account Balance	\$2,281.01

2nd Corinthians 9:12 – 'Your generosity is doing great things

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays: Shane McCallie (5), Amber Flessner (13), John Guyot (18), Mary Ann Harris (21), Brooke Guyot (28)
Anniversaries: None

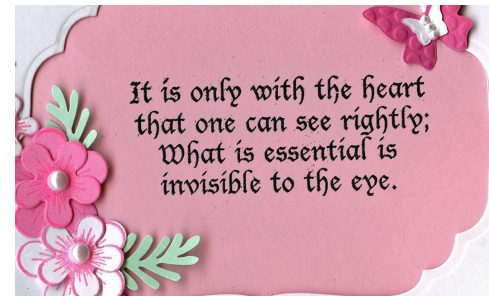
COMING EVENTS

Special Memorial Day Service

- SUNDAY, May 29th, 2016 -

Let's Restock Our Pantry

- We Are Empty Since Our Last Pickup -



SPECIAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

SUNDAY, MAY 29TH, 2016

INVITE A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR

MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Agenda For

Sunday, May 8th, 2016

Theme:

GROWING WITH GOD

Today's Topic:

"Parable Of The Tenants"

AM Class: AD – Film Series Study

Teacher: Chase Harris / In The Blue Room

10:30 am: **The Parable Of The Tenants**

Text: Matthew 21:33-41 / Mark 12:1-11 / Luke 20:9-18

1 pm: - **No Devotional At 1pm**

- Enjoy Time With Your Mother and/or Family -

Wed. 7pm: **Class Study "BELIEVE"**

Wade McCallie, Teaching

Special Prayer Requests

Pray Special And Specific Intercessory Prayers For:

June Brant	Gwen Gann
Jeannette Pope	Alice Jones
Diana Nordin	Allen Sullivan
Billye Werner	Tim & Chandra Stebbins
Janice Seay	Cynthia Bradley
Chris Folster	Paul & Kathy Apprill
Roy Bays	Rozalyn Boggs
Willie Whitaker	Jozie Thompson
C J Watkins	Jeanie McDonald
Susie Moore	Jimmy Golden

PRAYER REQUESTS

Continue your fervent prayers for **Jozie and Christina Thompson, CJ Watkins** (son-in-law of Janice Seay), and **Jimmy Golden** (friend of the Collins who lives in CA). All of these have critical needs. Each of these have critical health situations that need our constant prayer.

