

The Parable of the Wicked Vine Dressers (Matthew 21:33-46)

This parable continues exposing the Jewish rulers and people's hearts

The two sons and the wicked vinedresser stress the same key truth

They are both in response to the religious ruler's question asked in (v 23)

Jesus exposes the Jewish leaders and pronounces judgment on Israel

I. The Parable of the Wicked Vine Dressers (21:33-39)

'hear another parable' – spoken to the people – particularly the leaders

'**wealthy landowner**' – clearly represents a picture of God

Planted a vineyard, set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower, and he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country

Picture of Israel & the privileges, covenants & gospel entrusted to them

Landowner – sought produce from his vine – sent messengers to collect

Owners, messengers were mistreated, beaten, stoned and even killed

Finally, landowner sent his son- they killed him, wanted his inheritance

Jesus' question: what will the landowner do to the vinedressers? (v.40)

They answer: vs 37 – destroy them... lease to owners producing fruit

II. Religious Rulers' Realization and Reaction (vv.40,41)

With their own mouths the religious rulers condemn themselves & Israel

III. Jesus' Application: The Fulfillment of Scripture (vv.42-46)

Jesus accepts their answer & saw it as fulfilling Scripture: v. 42 (Ps 118)

From you, says Jesus, "the kingdom will be taken away" – OC will end

"Given to a nation bearing fruit"- Gentiles: NC – Jews plot to kill Jesus