

**Parable of the Wicked Tenants**  
**Rejecting Truth: You're Doing it Again!**

**Matthew 21:33-46**

**November 12, 2017**

Sin blinds us to reality and to truth.

What is a “Gotcha” parable? Telling a story with an obvious answer that proves to be a self-condemning statement.

A vineyard is an OT image of the people of God. (Psalm 80; Isaiah 5)

What is the context of this parable?

**Abusing the Prophets v 34-36**

The Landowner had set them up in every possible way.

God, in the same way, has tended to Israel, He has tended to the church.

Israel had a poor record of receiving prophets and their message. (2 Chronicles 36:15-16; Acts 7:51-52; Matthew 23:37-38)

The current Jewish leadership is doing it again!

How does the landowner respond?

**Killing the Son v 37-39**

This parable was given in the week before the death of Jesus.

Why would they think to inherit the land?

**The Gotcha v 40-41**

What will He do to those vine-growers?

**Applications**

Jews; Reformation; Colleges; Denominations; Churches; Individuals.

### **Jesus Explains v 42-44**

Christ is the chief cornerstone of the kingdom that God is building.

You have rejected him; judgment must come.

Don't reject Christ. Don't cast him off. Don't blur your vision to the truth.

### **Religious leaders React v 45-46**

They understood the parable. Jesus was talking about them.

Repent or be crushed.

They feared the people, but they did not fear God.

Notice the seemingly endless patience of God.

Notice the seemingly endless patience of God is not endless.