

THE REJECTED SON IS ACTUALLY THE EXALTED KING MATT 21:33-46 12/26/18

JESUS THOUGH REJECTED BY THE DISOBEDIENT WILL BECOME THE MOST VALUABLE PART OF GOD'S PLAN AND WILL JUDGE THOSE WHO REJECTED HIM

V33 LISTEN TO ANOTHER PARABLE AS IN THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS JESUS USES THE IMAGE OF A LAND OWNER A MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS LAND ITS CROPS AND THE WORKERS WHO WORKED IT THE LANGUAGE OF THIS VERSE MAKES A DIRECT CONNECTION WITH ISAIAH 5:1-7

THE DETAILS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VINEYARD ARE DRAWN FROM THIS OLD TESTAMENT PASSAGE ANY JEWISH LISTENER WOULD CLEARLY SEE THE CONNECTION

IN THE ISAIAH PASSAGE GOD IS MY LOVED ONE AND THE VINEYARD IS ISRAEL ALTHOUGH GOD HAD PROVIDED EVERYTHING NECESSARY FOR ISRAEL TO OBEY HIM AND PRODUCE GOOD SPIRITUAL FRUIT BUT ISRAEL HAD ONLY PRODUCED BAD FRUIT GOING THEIR OWN WAY TIME AFTER TIME

JESUS PARABLE PROVIDED A PARALLEL TO ISAIAH'S PASSAGE THE SAME VINEYARD AND THE SAME LANDOWNER BUT THE NEW FOCUS WAS ON THOSE TO WHO THE VINEYARD HAD BEEN RENTED IN JESUS PARABLE THE VINEYARD WAS ASSUMED TO PRODUCE WELL BUT THE STEWARDS OF THE VINEYARD WERE THE PROBLEM

THE FARMERS REPRESENTED ISRAEL'S LEADERS WHO HAD BEEN ENTRUSTED BY GOD WITH THE TASK OF SHEPHERDING HIS PEOPLE THE LANDOWNERS JOURNEY REPRESENTED THE TIME UNTIL CHRIST RETURN AT THE END TIMES

V34-36 WHEN THE HARVEST TIME APPROACHED THE FARMERS OR THE VINE GROWERS WERE EXPECTED TO SEND A PORTION OF THE HARVEST TO THE LANDOWNER AS RENT PAYMENT THEY WERE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LAND OWNER NOT ONLY AT THE END OF TIME BUT THROUGH OUT THEIR PERIOD OF RESPONSIBILITY

THE LAND OWNER SENDS HIS SERVANTS AS HIS REPRESENTATIVES TO COLLECT HIS PORTION OF THE HARVEST AND THEY BEAT ONE KILL ANOTHER AND STONED A THIRD THE SERVANTS REPRESENT GOD'S PROPHETS THE BEATING KILLING AND STONING OF THE MESSENGERS REPRESENT THEIR REJECTION OF GOD'S MESSENGERS

THE LAND OWNER PERSISTED SENDING AN EVEN LARGER GROUP OF SERVANTS BUT WITH THE SAME RESULTS THEY CONTINUED IN THEIR REBELLION

V37-39 THEN THE LANDOWNER SENT HIS CLOSEST AND BEST REPRESENTATIVE HIS SON THE MISTREATMENT OF HIS SERVANTS HAD BEEN A SLAP IN THE FACE WHICH DESERVED PUNISHMENT THE FINAL GESTURE BY THE LANDOWNER WAS A MEASURE OF HIS PATIENCE AND GRACE TOWARD THEM

BUT THEY FOOLED THEMSELVES INTO BELIEVING THEY COULD OBTAIN THE SON'S INHERITANCE BY KILLING HIM THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD GET AWAY WITH KILLING THE MESSIAH

V40-41 THEN JESUS ASK THEM A QUESTION WHEN THE OWNER OF THE VINEYARD COMES WHAT WILL HE DO TO THOSE VINE GROWERS THEY PRONOUNCE THEIR OWN SENTENCE EXECUTION AND REPLACEMENT

V42 THEN JESUS SAYS DID YOU NEVER READ THE SCRIPTURES JESUS QUOTES PSALM 118:22-23 THE STONE THAT THE BUILDERS REJECTED THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER STONE THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES

V43-46 JESUS CONFRONTED THE HYPOCRITES THE KINGDOM WOULD BE TAKEN AWAY FROM THEM AND GIVEN TO FAITHFUL STEWARDS THE CHURCH WOULD TAKE OVER GIVING GLORY AND SERVICE TO GOD PRODUCING SPIRITUAL FRUIT HIS SPIRIT NOW LIVING IN BELIEVERS THE NEW COVENANT

THEY REALIZED JESUS WAS TALKING TO THEM BUT THEY WERE UNWILLING TO REPENT