

Mark 12:1-12

¹ And he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. ² When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. ³ And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴ Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. ⁵ And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. ⁶ He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ⁷ But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ⁸ And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹ What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰ Have you not read this Scripture: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; ¹¹ this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'" ¹² And they were seeking to arrest him but feared the people, for they perceived that he had told the parable against them. So they left him and went away.

Rejection is Marvelous

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Todd Chapman - September 15, 2019

Mark desires to bolster our confidence in Jesus, so he writes to help us see that God has a most unusual way of building His kingdom, of providing salvation for us. The gospel is built on the rejection of Jesus by those who should have been able to recognize Him. Nothing occurred by accident.

Many, who should know better, will reject Jesus.

Jesus is the heart (cornerstone) of God's salvation.

God is always at work accomplishing His salvific plan.

Jesus' rejection and His being made the cornerstone are marvelous.

Notes:

Life Group Questions:

Mark 12:1-12

1. Who is the parable directed to? What is Jesus trying to communicate to them?
2. What is Mark hoping we readers take from his recording of Jesus' telling of the parable?
3. Why does Jesus quote part of Psalm 118? What does Mark hope we get from quoting Jesus' quote from Psalm 118?
4. What theological ideas do you believe Jesus is trying to convey by His telling of the parable?
5. What truths about God and how He works do you get from vv. 10-12, from the quote of Psalm 118?
6. How does this text encourage you? Be specific. In what current life situation do you most need this encouragement?
7. How do you experience and express the '*marvelous*' work of Jesus in daily life?