



JESUS – KING, CROSS, CROWN
THE KING TEACHES | MATTHEW 21:33-46
Pastor Mark Owens

Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country.³⁴ When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit.³⁵ And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.³⁶ Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them.³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.'³⁹ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.⁴⁰ When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.⁴⁴ And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.⁴⁶ And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet. - Matthew 21:33-46

Entitlement leads to rebellion; stewardship leads to faithfulness.

Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country.
- Matthew 21:33

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. 2 He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.
- Isaiah 5:1-2

God proves His patience in our rebellion.

When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit.³⁵ And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.³⁶ Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them.³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.'³⁹ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him." - Matthew 21:34-39

Long-suffering:

- God's willingness to endure our slowness.
- God's willingness to watch our resistance.
- God's willingness to be patient with our weakness.

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. - 2 Peter 3:9



Our selfish desires disrupt stewardship.

Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. - 1 Corinthians 4:2

Stewards:

- Manage resources according to the will of God.
- Know they are accountable to God.
- Desire for God to receive the glory, not themselves.

Entitled:

- Manage resources with an "I" focus.
- Are not concerned with accountability.
- Want the glory.

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, - Psalm 24:1

The entitled asks, "What will I do with this?"

Stewards ask, "What does God want me to do with this?"

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. - Matthew 6:21

Entitlement: Reveals our heart's desire, what is truly important to us

Stewardship: Reveals surrender, not a balance sheet.

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. - 2 Corinthians 9:7

The entitled ask, "How much will I lose if I give?"

Stewards ask, "How much will I gain if I give?"

Giving is not God taking from us, it is God freeing us.

Being close to God's work but resistant to His authority is dangerous

When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" 41 They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons. Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. 44 And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." - Matthew 21:40-44

The entitled resist examination. Stewards welcome examination.

The entitled despise accountability. Stewards welcome accountability.

The entitled protect their power. Stewards surrender to the ultimate power.

The entitled refuse authority. Stewards know the foundation is Christ and His authority.

Entitlement leads to rebellion; stewardship leads to faithfulness