

The Result Of Rejecting Divine Authority

Matthew 21:33-46

Intro:

- A. **The chief priests and temple elders had raised the question of authority with Jesus.**
 - 1. By what authority, God's or man's?
 - 2. By whose authority? Who told you to exercise it? (We certainly did not!)

- B. **The authority was from God.**
 - 1. He sent John to reveal His will.
 - 2. You all rejected it.
 - 3. The publicans and harlots accepted it.
 - 4. They are in His kingdom, you all are not.

- C. **Jesus continues the subject.**
 - 1. He now enlarges it to include the nation of Israel.
 - 2. He tells them by parable and by plain statement the consequences of their rejection.

I. The Parable Of The Householder's Vineyard.

- A. **The earthly details. V.33**
 - 1. digged a winepress = "to crush the grapes.
 - 2. built a tower = "to watch for invading foxes or others who might spoil the vineyards.
 - 3. Let it out to husbandmen.
 - 4. Sent servants to receive the produce.
 - 5. They killed his servants.
 - 6. Last of all he sent his son.
 - 7. They slew him.
 - 8. "What will he do unto those husbandmen?"

- B. **The reply of the chief priests.**
 - 1. He will destroy the husbandmen. **V.41**
 - 2. He ill let his vineyard to others.

II. The Interpretation And Application.

- A. **They should have known Jesus.**
 - 1. Jesus was (is) the cornerstone. **V.42**

2. This was the key-stone in our modern architectural language.
 3. This is the way God does things.
- B. The consequences of rejecting Him.**
1. "...the kingdom of God shall be taken from you." **V.43**
 2. "...and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."
 3. nation = εθνος = "a people", "those who live under common institutions," "the Gentile nations as distinct from other nations"
- C. The power of the "stone" Jesus.**
1. broken = συνθλαω = "to crush together" (This refers to one being broken in spirit and in heart. To be prepared spiritually for repentance.) **v.44**
 2. grind to powder = λικμαω = "to winnow, to scatter to the winds, make chaff, to disperse."
- D. The perception of the Pharisees.**
1. perceived = γινωσκω = "to obtain knowledge of, or insight into." **V.45**
 2. They could not silence Him. **V.46**

