

the gospel of
MIARK

Mark 12:1-17

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[a] 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.

Mark 12:1-17

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.'

Mark 12:1-17

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:

Mark 12:1-17

“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.

Mark 12:1-17

13 And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. 14 And they came and said to him, “Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances,[c] but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?”

Mark 12:1-17

15 But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, “Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius[d] and let me look at it.” 16 And they brought one. And he said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said to him, “Caesar's.” 17 Jesus said to them, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.” And they marveled at him.

Mark 12:1-17

God = Vineyard owner

Vineyard = Israel

Workers = Religious leaders of the time

Messengers Sent = OT Prophets

Mark 12:1-17

- Parable recognizable to crowd and leaders
- “No possession is dearer to a man than a vineyard, and there is none that demands more constant and persevering toil. Not only, therefore, does the Lord declare that we are his beloved inheritance, but at the same time points out his care and anxiety about us.”

-John Calvin

Mark 12:1-17

- Vs 2-5 Servant after servant sent despite poor and hostile treatment.
 - Jer 19:14-15, 20:1-2
 - 1 Kings 19:2
- The response of Jewish Leaders rarely one of repentance.

Mark 12:1-17

- Despite being within his rights to persecute the tenants after the first servant was mistreated, we see his patience .
- The Son was also mistreated.
- If an owner died without an heir, the property could revert to whoever had possession, or become "ownerless" property (res nullius) that could be claimed by the occupants.

Mark 12:1-17

- Herodians - A group of powerful Jewish leaders whose focus was more on political matters and following the Roman law
- Pharisees - A zealous religious group of Jews whose saw the government as corrupt and wanted to be “set apart” (which is also the meaning of their name)

Mark 12:1-17

- A Denarius →
- Front Inscription:
Tiberius Caesar,
Son of the Divine
Augustus"
- Back Inscription:
Chief High Priest



Mark 12:1-17

- “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” Genesis 1:27
- For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Eph 2:10

Mark 12:1-17

- Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Col 3:9-10
- This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God.

Genesis 5:1

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Reflection Questions

1. In what ways do we resemble the tenants or Jewish leaders?
2. Do I even realize I resemble the Creator? Do I have a true relationship with him?
3. In what areas of my life do I need to give back to God?