

*Jesus told seven parables in his last week of life.

*Mark 12:1 Jesus then began to speak to them in parables: "A man planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a pit for the winepress, and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. 2 At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. 3 But they seized him, beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. 4 Then he sent another servant to them; they struck this man on the head and treated him shamefully. 5 He sent still another, and that one they killed. He sent many others; some of them they beat, others they killed.

- 6 "He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, 'They will respect my son.'
- 7 "But the tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' 8 So they took him and killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.
- 9 "What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others. 10 Haven't you read this passage of Scripture:" 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; 11 the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

*The misunderstood parable and false theology.

- 1. *V:1-8 Jesus is a non-religious Messiah. He came to the world, not to an organization but to humanity. The Jewish religious leaders missed used the law and perverted it. Jesus challenged the religious community on such things. He came to show the only path to righteousness was through him. Replacement theology doesn't understand the Bible.
- 2. *V:9-11 Jesus gave God's mission to 12 non-religious leaders but, they were all Jewish.
 - A. *He didn't replace the nation of Israel with the Church. John 1:9-13
 - B. *The Church was no plan "B" it was the hidden plan. Ephesians 3:8-9 & 10
 - C. *This parable reinforces the story of God's plan of salvation for the whole world.

*Matthew 22:2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

- 4 "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'
- ⁵ "But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.
- 8 "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. 9 So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' 10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.
- 11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. 12 He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless. 13 "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
 14 "For many are invited, but few are chosen."

*Those who call themselves Christian but refuse God's Word.

 V:2-5 Through the parable of the wedding banquet we get insights into the rapture. All seven parables are told in Matthew; Four of the 7 are only told in Matthew. Only 2 of the 7 are in three gospels The Tenants & The Fig tree.

- 2. **The refusal**: This is a rejection of God's truth that Jesus is the Kinsman and He is returning first for the Church His bride to take the Church to a wedding banquet. Some refuse to believe in the rapture and this could be their destiny.
- 3. V:6-13 The King was enraged. This concept is not often talked about in the N.T. Remember a parable is used to teach a point. The point is self-righteousness won't get you into heaven.
- 4. V:14 Many are invited few will answer the invite. This should get people attention about how important the rapture and the wedding banquet is to God.

*Matthew 24:32 "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. 33 Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. 34 Truly I tell you; this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

*Matthew 24:42 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. 43 But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

*Two Parables That Deal With Timing.

- 1. V:32-34 The Parable of the fig tree. The summer is near could be a key to an event. This parable is in Matthew, Mark13:28-29, and Luke 21:29-31
- 2. *V:42-44 The Parable of the faithful. Many take this parable into verses 45-51. Who is the thief in the parable? Jesus is the thief just as Paul will use this language in 1st Thess. 5:1-6

*Three Parables in Matthew 25 that give the future sequence story.

1. *Matthew 25:1-13 Parable of the Ten Virgins.

The parable reveals that up to 50% of those that think they are going in the rapture are not ready. **They don't have enough oil.** The oil could mean they are not Spirit-filled they are just religious.

The oil could be literal they have not light on this teaching and have not been preparing for this time.

2. *Matthew 25:14-30 Parable of the Talents.

This parable is about the bema seat judgment. After the wedding banquet, there are rewards/gifts handed out to the guest. The gifts are rewarded based on our faithfulness here on earth.

*Matthew 25:31-46 Parable of the Sheep and the Goats. Only the sheep will go into the millennial reign. The goats will go into everlasting punishment. (Matthew 25:46)
 *Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'