

The Parable of the Tenants

December 15, 2016

Matthew 21:33-46 NASB

33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who **PLANTED A VINEYARD AND PUT A WALL AROUND IT AND DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT, AND BUILT A TOWER**, and rented it out to vine-growers and went on a journey.

Isaiah 5:1-6 NASB

1 Let me sing now for my well-beloved A song of my beloved concerning His vineyard. My well-beloved had a vineyard on a fertile hill.

2 He dug it all around, removed its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. And He built a tower in the middle of it And also hewed out a wine vat in it; Then He expected it to produce good grapes, But it produced only worthless ones.

3 "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, Judge between Me and My vineyard.

4 "What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why, when I expected it to produce good grapes did it produce worthless ones?"

5 "So now let Me tell you what I am going to do to My vineyard: I will remove its hedge and it will be consumed; I will break down its wall and it will become trampled ground.

6 "I will lay it waste; It will not be pruned or hoed, But briars and thorns will come up. I will also charge the clouds to rain no rain on it."

Matthew 21:33-46 NASB

34 "When the harvest time approached, he sent his slaves to the vine-growers to receive his produce.

35 "The vine-growers took his slaves and beat one, and killed another, and stoned a third.

36 "Again he sent another group of slaves larger than the first; and they did the same thing to them.

37 "**BUT AFTERWARD HE SENT HIS SON TO THEM, SAYING, 'THEY WILL RESPECT MY SON.'**

38 "**BUT WHEN THE VINE-GROWERS SAW THE SON, THEY SAID AMONG THEMSELVES, 'THIS IS THE HEIR; COME, LET US KILL HIM AND SEIZE HIS INHERITANCE.'**

39 "**THEY TOOK HIM, AND THREW HIM OUT OF THE VINEYARD AND KILLED HIM.**

40 "Therefore when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-growers?"

41 They said to Him, "**HE WILL BRING THOSE WRETCHES TO A WRETCHED END, AND WILL RENT OUT THE VINEYARD TO OTHER VINE-GROWERS WHO WILL PAY HIM THE PROCEEDS AT THE PROPER SEASONS.**"

42 Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, **'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER STONE; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?**

43 "**THEREFORE I SAY TO YOU, THE KINGDOM OF GOD WILL BE TAKEN AWAY FROM YOU AND GIVEN TO A PEOPLE, PRODUCING THE FRUIT OF IT.**

44 "And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

45 **WHEN THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE PHARISEES HEARD HIS PARABLES, THEY UNDERSTOOD THAT HE WAS SPEAKING ABOUT THEM.**

46 When they sought to seize Him, they feared the people, because they considered Him to be a prophet.

Lessons of the Parable:

1. *There is nothing more the Lord could have done to redeem, save, deliver and restore us.*
2. *The Lord expects good fruit from all He has given and sown into our lives.*
3. *If we produce bad fruit instead of good fruit, all that the Lord has done for us will be taken away.*

Can a Christian lose their salvation?

Romans 11:17-22 NASB

17 But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree,

18 **DO NOT BE ARROGANT TOWARD THE BRANCHES;** but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you.

19 You will say then, "**BRANCHES WERE BROKEN OFF SO THAT I MIGHT BE GRAFTED IN.**"

20 **QUITE RIGHT, THEY WERE BROKEN OFF FOR THEIR UNBELIEF, BUT YOU STAND BY YOUR FAITH. DO NOT BE CONCEITED, BUT FEAR;**

21 **FOR IF GOD DID NOT SPARE THE NATURAL BRANCHES, HE WILL NOT SPARE YOU, EITHER.**

22 Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, **IF YOU CONTINUE IN HIS KINDNESS; OTHERWISE YOU ALSO WILL BE CUT OFF.**

Hebrews 6:4-9 NASB

4 For in the case of those who have once been **ENLIGHTENED** and have **TASTED OF THE HEAVENLY GIFT** and have been made **PARTAKERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,**

5 and have **TASTED THE GOOD WORD OF GOD** and **THE POWERS OF THE AGE TO COME,**

6 and **THEN HAVE FALLEN AWAY** (*parapiptō - error, to deviate from the right path, turn aside, wander*), **IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RENEW** (*anakainizō - renew, renovate, restore*) **THEM AGAIN TO REPENTANCE,** since they **AGAIN CRUCIFY TO THEMSELVES THE SON OF GOD** and **PUT HIM TO OPEN SHAME.**

7 For **GROUND THAT DRINKS THE RAIN WHICH OFTEN FALLS ON IT** and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God;

8 **BUT IF IT YIELDS THORNS AND THISTLES, IT IS WORTHLESS AND CLOSE TO BEING CURSED, AND IT ENDS UP BEING BURNED.**

9 But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.

Hebrews 10:26-31 NASB

26 **FOR IF WE GO ON SINNING WILLFULLY** (*hekousiōs - voluntarily, of one's own accord, to sin wilfully as opposed to sins committed from weakness*) **AFTER RECEIVING THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH, THERE NO LONGER REMAINS A SACRIFICE FOR SINS,**

27 **BUT A TERRIFYING EXPECTATION OF JUDGMENT AND THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.**

28 Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

29 **HOW MUCH SEVERER PUNISHMENT DO YOU THINK HE WILL DESERVE WHO HAS TRAMPLED UNDER FOOT THE SON OF GOD, AND HAS REGARDED AS UNCLEAN THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT BY WHICH HE WAS SANCTIFIED, AND HAS INSULTED THE SPIRIT OF GRACE?**

30 For we know Him who said, "**VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY.**" And again, "**THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE.**"

31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

*You're not sinning "**WILLFULLY**" when:*

1. *your conscience tells you it's wrong as you're doing it*
2. *your conscience spoils the pleasure or satisfaction*
3. *you hate what you're doing*
4. *you feel remorse, sorrow and/or guilt afterwards*

Romans 7:15-20 NASB

15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but **I AM DOING THE VERY THING I HATE.**

16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good.

17 **SO NOW, NO LONGER AM I THE ONE DOING IT, BUT SIN WHICH DWELLS IN ME.**

18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; **FOR THE WILLING IS PRESENT IN ME, BUT THE DOING OF THE GOOD IS NOT.**

19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but **I PRACTICE THE VERY EVIL THAT I DO NOT WANT.**

20 **BUT IF I AM DOING THE VERY THING I DO NOT WANT, I AM NO LONGER THE ONE DOING IT, BUT SIN WHICH DWELLS IN ME.**

1 Timothy 4:1-3 NASB

1 But **THE SPIRIT EXPLICITLY SAYS THAT IN LATER TIMES SOME WILL FALL AWAY** (*aphistēmi - go away, withdraw, desert, depart, become faithless*) **FROM THE FAITH**, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars **SEARED IN THEIR OWN CONSCIENCE AS WITH A BRANDING IRON,**

3 men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.

Hebrews 2:1-4 NASB

1 For this reason **WE MUST PAY MUCH CLOSER ATTENTION TO WHAT WE HAVE HEARD, SO THAT WE DO NOT DRIFT AWAY FROM IT.**

2 For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty,

3 **HOW WILL WE ESCAPE IF WE NEGLECT SO GREAT A SALVATION?** After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,

4 God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

It's possible - but highly improbable!

Matthew 18:12-14 NASB

12 "What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, **DOES HE NOT LEAVE THE NINETY-NINE ON THE MOUNTAINS AND GO AND SEARCH FOR THE ONE THAT IS STRAYING?**

13 "If it turns out that he finds it, truly I say to you, **HE REJOICES OVER IT MORE THAN OVER THE NINETY-NINE WHICH HAVE NOT GONE ASTRAY.**

14 "**SO IT IS NOT THE WILL OF YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN THAT ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES PERISH.**"

Psalms 73:21-24 NASB

21 When my heart was embittered And I was pierced within,

22 Then I was senseless and ignorant; I was like a beast before You.

23 **NEVERTHELESS I AM CONTINUALLY WITH YOU; YOU HAVE TAKEN HOLD OF MY RIGHT HAND.**

24 **WITH YOUR COUNSEL YOU WILL GUIDE ME, AND AFTERWARD RECEIVE ME TO GLORY.**

Psalms 103:10-14 NASB

10 **HE HAS NOT DEALT WITH US ACCORDING TO OUR SINS, NOR REWARDED US ACCORDING TO OUR INIQUITIES.**

11 **FOR AS HIGH AS THE HEAVENS ARE ABOVE THE EARTH, SO GREAT IS HIS LOVINGKINDNESS TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM.**

12 **AS FAR AS THE EAST IS FROM THE WEST, SO FAR HAS HE REMOVED OUR TRANSGRESSIONS FROM US.**

13 **JUST AS A FATHER HAS COMPASSION ON HIS CHILDREN, SO THE LORD HAS COMPASSION ON THOSE WHO FEAR HIM.**

14 **FOR HE HIMSELF KNOWS OUR FRAME; HE IS MINDFUL THAT WE ARE BUT DUST.**

Romans 8:29-30 NASB

29 For those whom He foreknew, **HE ALSO PREDESTINED TO BECOME CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON,** so that **HE WOULD BE THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN;**

30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.