

Southside Baptist Church
Wednesday Night Worship – 9-16-26
Matthew Chapter 21 Part 7
The “Stone”

1.Introduction:

a.Taking a look back:

- 1)We walked through the Parable of the Husbandman.
 - a)The landowner, or householder, is God.
 - b)The vineyard is Israel.
 - c)The tenants are Israel’s rulers and leaders.
 - d)The servants are the prophets.
 - e)The Son is Jesus.
 - f)The punishment is God’ s rejection of Israel.
 - g)The people to whom the vineyard will be given are the Gentiles.

b.Taking a look ahead:

- 1)We will pick up the parable this evening just ahead of where we left off last week.

2.The kingdom of God is taken from you. Matthew 21:42-46

a.Verse 42 –

- 1)Another question from Jesus. “Did ye never read in the scriptures?”
 - a)In the Gospels, Jesus asked this question 10 times.
 - b)Why did He do that?
- 2)Jesus is referencing Psalm 118:22-23.
- 3)Why does God reference Himself as a rock or stone?
 - a)Unwavering strength and stability.
 - b)Our fortress and refuge.
 - c)He is faithful and reliable.
 - d)Our sure foundation.
- 4)Do you ever remember reading about one of these?
- 5)“the head of the corner.” How pivotal is the cornerstone?
 - a)The main foundation stone is set at the corner of the building to align it accurately.
 - b)The “keystone” or “capstone” is the last stone placed in the arch to lock the stones together.
- 6)Notice how this verse ends.
 - a)“this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous.”

b.Verse 43 –

- 1)The word “you” is plural here and references the religious leadership of Israel who rejected the prophets and were about to reject the Son.
- 2)Now what will happen?
 - a)“The kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.”
 - b)“The kingdom of God” – speaks of the reign of God in the universe over all His creation. It is a spiritual reign and is entered by the new birth.
 - c)John 3:5 –
- 3)Take this in here because it involves you, the believer.
 - a)I speak of the Church.
 - b)Ephesians 2:20-22 –

- 4) This is important to understand so that we do not become confused concerning Israel's rejection and the Gentiles.
 - a) Going back to Matthew 13.
 - b) The disciples asked Jesus why He spoke in parables. Matthew 13:9.
 - c) Jesus answered them in Matthew 13:35.

c. Verse 44 –

- 1) There is an application here that is true for all people.
 - a) The "Stone" refers back to the stone mentioned in verse 42.
- 2) "And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken."
 - a) This suggests an encounter with the stone, Jesus.
- 3) What can happen when a lost person encounters Jesus.
 - a) Specifically – "shall be broken" is not to be interpreted as punishment for falling on the stone but a description of what happens when one falls on the stone.
- 4) This encounter can also happen to a believer.
- 5) "but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind them to powder."
 - a) This is a much different picture of truth.
 - b) "grind" – can speak of being crushed to death.
 - c) This speaks to the judgment of God upon those who refuse to repent and turn to Him.
- 6) Is that clear?

d. Verse 45 –

- 1) They now understand that these parables were for them.

e. Verse 46 –

- 1) They are still on their mission to get rid of Him.

3. Tonight's Takeaways

- a. Looking back at this parable and how it ended, there are 3 things I would like to leave you with.
 - 1) It connects the rejection of Christ to the loss of privilege.
 - 2) It humbles every one of us.
 - 3) It contains the Gospel.