



Reading Through the New Testament Mark 12:1-12

The Bible story in five parts:

God calls a people (Israel) to relationship with Him.

People (Israel) reject relationship with God.

God sends His Son as Savior for His people (Israel).

People (Israel) reject God's Son as Savior.

God calls all people to relationship through Christ.

The Bible is a story of God sending His Son as Savior for His people (Israel).

He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally, he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' Mark 12:6

Text Message:

- Could this reference be any clearer?
- Here Jesus brings the parable full circle to his present day.
- "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God." John 3:16-18

Books of the Bible:

Most (almost 2/3- but not all!) of what is written in the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The Bible is a story of God's people (Israel) rejecting God's Son as Savior.

⁷But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ⁸And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard.

Text Message:

- Notice the words "those tenants." This is not referring to all Jews of Jesus' day, but those who would side with Rome in His crucifixion.
- Verses 7-8 refer to the last week of Jesus' life, referred to as "the Passion of Christ."
- Taken together, the Passion of Christ makes up 34% of what is written about Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Books of the Bible:

A significant portion (over 1/3!) of what is written in the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The Bible is a story of God calling all people to relationship through Christ.

⁹What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others.

Text Message:

- Look at the crucial question Jesus asks here.
- In other words, "What will God do now that there is no one else to send and Israel has again rejected Him? How will the promises of a nation, land, and being a blessing to the earth promised to Abraham be fulfilled?
- The question is rhetorical, as Jesus gives the answer. Notice:
 - 1) It is not the vineyard (Israel) that is destroyed, but the tenants (religious leaders of Jesus' day) destroyed.
 - 2) This destruction took place when Jerusalem and temple were destroyed by the Romans in AD 70.
 - 3) The vineyard was given to others (Jesus' Apostles) who welcome all people to forgiveness/relationship with God and reshape/fulfill God's promises to Abraham in Christ.

Books of the Bible:

Acts – Revelation.



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