

## **The Rejected Cornerstone**

Mark 12:1-12

**Context:** After his confrontation in the Temple with the religious authorities, Jesus shares a parable about their abuse and misuse of God's kingdom.

**As you study the parable of the vineyard tenants,**

**1. \_\_\_\_\_ the characters (vs. 12-14)**

- A. God - The owner of the vineyard.
- B. Vineyard - Israel
- C. Tenants - The Religious and Political leaders of Israel
- D. Servants - Old Testament Prophets
- E. Son - Jesus Christ

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ their violence and greed (vs. 2-8)**

- A. The vinedressers were greedy; because they wanted the entire harvest and the vineyard for themselves and would stop at nothing to achieve that end, they plotted to kill the owner's son. Because Jesus had achieved such a following, the Jewish leaders believed the only way to maintain their position and power over the people was to kill Him. (John MacArthur)
- B. Matthew 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!" (See also 2 Chronicles 36:15-16; Hebrews 11:36-38)

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ the rejected stone (vs. 9-12)**

- A. In Mark 12:10-11, Jesus quotes Psalm 118:22-23, identifying himself with the rejected stone that will ultimately be the preeminent stone in God's kingdom work—the cornerstone.
- B. John 1:10-11 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.