

# The Vineyard of God

*Isaiah 5:7 The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel*

May 17, 2026

## The Lord Labors For Growth and Partners With Others Towards It

Mark 12:1 He 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 tenant farmers and went away on a journey.

## Partnerships Should Produce Shared Profits?

Mark 12:2-5 At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. But they seized him, beat him and sent him away empty-handed. Then he sent another servant to them; they struck this man on the head and treated him shamefully. He sent still another and that one they killed. He sent many others; some of them they beat- others they killed.

## Failed Partnerships Threaten One's Own Family

Mark 12:6-8 "He had one left to send, a son whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, 'They will respect my son.' "But the tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and the inheritance will be ours!' So- they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard!

## We are Free to Choose Our Actions; We are Not Free From The Consequences!

Mark 12:9 "What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others.

Matthew 21:41 "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time."

The servants dispatched by the owner represent the Old Testament prophets from Moses to John the Baptist. They were sent by God to denounce Israel's sin and call the nation to repentance and so produce a fruitful harvest for God's honor and glory. But Israel mistreated and rejected those God-sent preachers.

Justin Martyr reports that Isaiah was sawn in half with a wooden saw (Heb. 11:37). Jeremiah was constantly mistreated and falsely accused of treason (Jer. 37:13-16), thrown into a pit (Jer. 38:9) and according to tradition, stoned to death. Ezekiel faced similar hatred and hostility (Ezek. 2:6); Amos was forced to flee for his life (Amos 7:10-13); Zechariah was rejected (Zech. 11:12), Micah was struck in the face (1 Kings 22:24)

## God Controls All Outcomes Even The Most Negative

Mark 12:10-11 Haven't you read this scripture: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this and it is marvelous in our eyes?

## When An Investment Fails To Return --Reinvestment Elsewhere Is The Answer!

Matthew 21:43-44 Therefore; I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed.

## Pulling Out Of A Failed Partnership Is Perilous!

Mark 12:12 Then they looked for a way to arrest Him because they knew He had spoken the parable against them. But they were afraid of the crowd, so they left Him and went away.

## When God Plants He Expects Fruit!

Isaiah 5:1-2 ...My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit.

Isaiah 5:3-4 And now- you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between Me and My vineyard. What more could have been done for My vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?

## Negative Divine Consequences Are The Result of Resisting God's Ownership

Isaiah 5:5-6 I will tell you what I am going to do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall and it will be trampled. I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated and briars and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it!

## Israel's History With Gods An Example To The Whole World

Isaiah 5:7 The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel and the men of Judah are the garden of His delight. He looked for justice; but saw bloodshed; for righteousness; but heard cries of distress.

Acts 2:22-24 Men of Israel, listen! Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through Him, as you yourselves know. **This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge** and you, with the help of wicked men, put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross. But God raised Him from the dead, freeing Him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him.

## **Israel's Rejection of Christ Allows for Other Peoples To Come Into Partnership With The One True God**

Romans 11:25 I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.

## **The Marvel of God's Plan Is That The Whole World Is Being Allowed Access To God Through The Son That Was Rejected!**

Acts 4:11-12 He is -the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone'. Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

1 Peter 2:4-7 As you come to Him, the **living Stone**--rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him-- you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For Scripture says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame." Now to you who believe, this stone JESUS is precious.

## **The Access To The Lord Is Now Offered To Individuals Who Will Commit To His Lordship**

John 15:1-8 I am the true vine and My Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit, He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the Word I have spoken to you. Remain in Me and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me.

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in Me and My Words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be given you. This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples.

Hebrews 1:1-3 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, Whom He appointed heir of all things, through Whom He made the universe! The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful Word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of Majesty in heaven.