

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 12-7-08 PM NOTES
"THE PARABLE OF THE WICKED SHARECROPPERS"
MATTHEW 21:33-46
#74 in Series, "Verse by Verse through Matthew"

Romans 2:4 (NKJV) "Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and **longsuffering**, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?"

2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV) "The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is **longsuffering** toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

"Men Naturally Are God's Enemies." by Jonathan Edwards

Romans 5:10a (NKJV) "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son..."

1. We Are God's Enemies in Our Judgments
"They entertain very low and contemptible thoughts of God. Whatever honor and respect they may pretend, and make a show of toward God, if their practice be examined, it will show that they certainly look upon Him as a Being that is but little to be regarded."
2. We Are God's Enemies in the Natural Desires of Our Souls
3. We Are God's Enemies in Our Wills
4. We Are God's Enemies in Our Affections
"This is exercised in dreadful heart-risings, inward wranglings and quarrelings, and blasphemous thoughts, wherein the heart is like a viper, hissing and spitting poison at God...Temptations will show what is in the heart. The alterations of a man's circumstances will often discover the heart."
5. We Are God's Enemies in Our Practice

I. The Lord and His Vineyard (vv. 33-39)

"He chose Israel to be a peculiar people to Himself. He separated them from the other nations of the earth and bestowed on them countless blessings. He gave them revelations of Himself while all the earth was in darkness. He gave them the law, and the covenants, and the oracles of God, while all the world beside was left alone. In short, God dealt with the Jews as a man deals with a piece of land which he fences out and cultivates, while the fields around are left untilled and waste."

—J. C. Ryle

Deuteronomy 7:6 (NKJV) "For you *are* a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth."

Deuteronomy 7:7 (NKJV) "The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples."

Deuteronomy 7:8 (NKJV) "But because the Lord loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt."

Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV) "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ".

Ephesians 1:4 (NKJV) “Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.”

Ephesians 1:5-6 (NKJV) “⁵ Having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved.”

Ephesians 1:9 (NKJV) “Having made known to us the mystery of His will, **according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself.**”

II. The Lord and His Vengeance (vv. 40-46)

Luke 12:48b (NKJV) “...For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required...”

A. The Conclusion (vv. 40-41)

B. The Explanation (v. 42)

1 Corinthians 1:23 (NKJV) “But we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness.”

Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV) “Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner *stone*.”

Daniel 2:34 (NKJV) “You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.”

Acts 4:10-12 (NKJV) “¹⁰ Let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. ¹¹ This is the ‘*stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.*’ ¹² Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

C. The Application (vv. 43-44)

Romans 9:25-26 (NKJV) “²⁵ As He says also in Hosea: ‘*I will call them My people, who were not My people, and her beloved, who was not beloved.*’ ²⁶ *And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, ‘You are not My people,’ There they shall be called sons of the living God.*”

D. The Reaction (vv. 45-46)