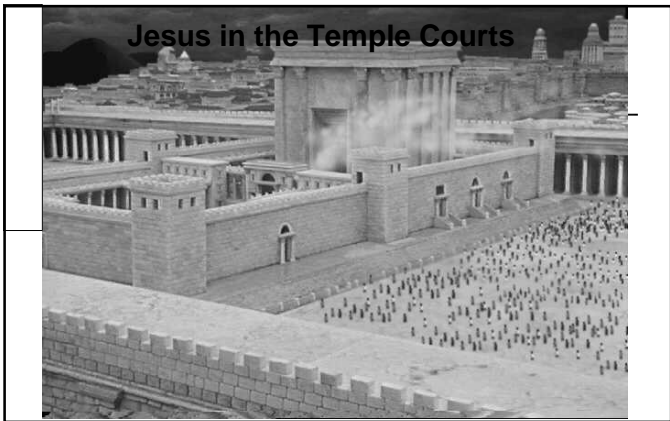
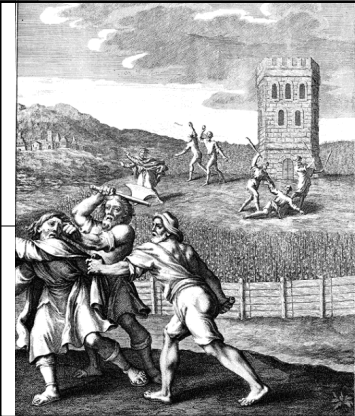

 **The Gospel of Matthew**

“The Rejected Stone/the Risen Son”
 Matthew 21:33-46

Parable of the Vine-growers


Matthew 21:33-46

 **Parable of the Vine-growers**

Symbolic Elements of the Parable


- Landowner is God
- Vineyard is Israel
- Vine-growers are Israel's leaders
- Landowner's slaves are the prophets
- The son is the Messiah, Jesus

(Isaiah 5:1-7)

 **Parable of the Vine-growers**


Lessons of the Parable

1. Religion may mask a rebellious heart
 - Israel, though outwardly religious, failed to produce the fruit God required
 - they refused to listen and respond to God's word given by the prophets

 **Parable of the Vine-growers**

Lessons of the Parable


2. The longsuffering of God is remarkable
 - God continued to extend mercy to a rebellious, hard-hearted people
 - the climax of His mercy is the sending of His Son



Parable of the Vine-growers

Lessons of the Parable


3. The rejection of the Son brings judgment
 - Israel's rejection of Jesus resulted in their judgment and destruction
 - all who reject Jesus as Savior will experience the just wrath of God



Parable of the Vine-growers

Lessons of the Parable

4. Israel's failure results in a new "nation"
 - a new people of God founded on Jesus' ministry and characterized by faith in Him
 - this new people of God will produce the "fruit" God desires



Parable of the Vine-growers

Lessons of the Parable

5. The son who was rejected will be vindicated
 - Jesus was rejected and killed by the leaders but vindicated by God through the resurrection
 - the consequence of rejecting Jesus, whom God vindicated, is complete destruction

"let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead— by this name this man stands before you in good health.

He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the very corner stone.

And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved"

Acts 4:10-12