

**Who is Jesus?**

# Parable of Landover and Vine Growers

## ■ Matthew 21: 40-44:

40. "Therefore when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-growers?"
41. They said to Him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end, and will rent out the vineyard to other vine-growers who will pay him the proceeds at the proper seasons.
42. "Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?"
43. "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it.
44. "And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

# Parable of Sons and Vineyard

## ■ Matthew 21: 28-31:

28. "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in the vineyard.'
29. "And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he regretted it and went.
30. "The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, 'I will, sir'; but he did not go.
31. "Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you.

# Israel as the Vineyard

## ■ Isaiah 5: 1-7:

1. Let me sing now for my well-beloved A song of my beloved concerning His vineyard. My well-beloved had a vineyard on a fertile hill.
2. He dug it all around, removed its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. And He built a tower in the middle of it And also hewed out a wine vat in it; Then He expected it to produce good grapes, But it produced only worthless ones.
3. "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, Judge between Me and My vineyard.
4. "What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why, when I expected it to produce good grapes did it produce worthless ones?
5. "So now let Me tell you what I am going to do to My vineyard: I will remove its hedge and it will be consumed; I will break down its wall and it will become trampled ground.
6. "I will lay it waste; It will not be pruned or hoed, But briars and thorns will come up. I will also charge the clouds to rain no rain on it."
7. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel And the men of Judah His delightful plant. Thus He looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; For righteousness, but behold, a cry of distress.

# Israel's Judgement

## ■ Ezekiel 19: 10-14:

10. 'Your mother was like a vine in your vineyard, Planted by the waters; It was fruitful and full of branches Because of abundant waters.
11. 'And it had strong branches fit for scepters of rulers, And its height was raised above the clouds So that it was seen in its height with the mass of its branches.
12. 'But it was plucked up in fury; It was cast down to the ground; And the east wind dried up its fruit. Its strong branch was torn off So that it withered; The fire consumed it.
13. 'And now it is planted in the wilderness, In a dry and thirsty land.
14. 'And fire has gone out from its branch; It has consumed its shoots and fruit, So that there is not in it a strong branch, A scepter to rule.' " This is a lamentation, and has become a lamentation.

# God's Salvation

## ■ Isaiah 53: 1-5:

1. Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
2. For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And **LIKE A ROOT OUT OF PARCHED GROUND**; He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.
3. He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
4. Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.
5. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.

# Jesus is the Vine

## ■ John 15: 5-6:

5. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.
6. "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned.

# Jesus as the Corner Stone

## ■ Matthew 21: 42-44:

42. "Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?"
43. "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it.
44. "And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

# Jesus as the Stumbling Stone

## ■ Isaiah 8: 14-15:

14. "Then He shall become a sanctuary; But to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, And a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
15. "Many will stumble over them, Then they will fall and be broken; They will even be snared and caught."

# Why do we stumble? (1)

## ■ 1 Peter 2: 6-8:

6. For this is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."
7. This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, "THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone,"
8. and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed.

# Why do we stumble? (2)

## ■ Romans 9: 31-33:

31. but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law.
32. Why \*? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone,
33. just as it is written, "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

# The Secret

## ■ John 15: 4-5:

4. "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.
5. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

## ■ John 14: 23-24:

23. Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.
24. "He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

# Love is the Key

## ■ Galatians 5: 6:

6. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.

## ■ Galatians 2: 20:

20. "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.