

# Judgment on Christ's Rejecters

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 21:33.

B. Christmas started with a certain sadness. Christ was not and is not received as he ought. (John 1)

C. Jesus' parable here is a rejection parable.

## II. The use of a vineyard is a common practice for parables. (Isaiah 5)

A. They were vulnerable, so they were often hedged about.

B. A tower was built for security and storage.

## III. The owner of the vineyard rents out his vineyard, but the renters kill the servants he sends to collect. The owner eventually sends his only Son, and they kill him also. (Mark 12:6)

## IV. Explanation.

A. Jesus indicts the Jews for rejecting the one that would be the head. (Psalm 118:22-23)

B. In the historical sense, Israel was the stone that was rejected.

C. The rejected stone who is made the head is Christ. (Acts 4:10, Ephesians 2:19)

D. Jesus claims to be divine by being totally separate from the other servants. The Jews knew who Jesus was.

## V. Application.

A. The kingdom would be taken from the Jews and given elsewhere.

1. Israel lost the right to be under God's blessings. (Matthew 3:7)

2. Blessings would be given to the church instead. (1 Peter 2, Romans 9-11)

B. Those who reject Christ will be judged.

**Application Questions:**

1. Did the Jews reject Jesus out of ignorance?

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2. Why is it important to make the distinction between ethnic Israel and the church?

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3. How should the reality of judgment stir us in evangelism? What can you do this week to witness to your friends?

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