

## Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship



"We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ." Col 1:28

## "From a Vineyard to a Cornerstone"

**Luke 20:9-18**

Jan. 7, 2024

## Passion Week

Month of Nisan  
1<sup>st</sup> month of Hebrew Calendar.  
(Exodus 12:2) (March/April)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Jesus arrived in Bethany yesterday (Saturday), and on Sunday the crowds visit Jesus and Lazarus in Bethany, which upset the Jewish leaders (John 12:9-20).	<b>Select the sacrificial lamb.</b> Exodus 12:3 "On the <u>tenth</u> of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves..."  Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, a.k.a. Palm Monday (John 12:12) also see Matt. 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:9-20)  Jesus visits the temple, looked around, and heals many  Jesus returns to Bethany for the evening	Jesus curses the Fig Tree (divine judgment re: Israel)  Jesus cleanses the Temple again, He overturned tables, seats, and prevented people from using the temple as a shortcut  Jesus' conversation with Greeks (John 12:20-36)  God the Father audibly speaks, and everyone hears (John 12:28-33)  Jesus talks about His coming death and the unbelief of the Jews	Withered Fig tree is seen again (Mark 11)  Jesus teaches all day in the Temple grounds.  Jewish leaders' official challenge of Christ's authority  Jesus tells parables to the chief priests, scribes and Pharisees on the Temple grounds  Jewish leaders plot to kill Him  Jesus teaches the Olivet Discourse to the Disciples See chapters Matthew 21-25; Mark 11-13; Luke 19-21; John 12	Jesus sends Peter and John to prepare for the Passover meal. Note: Jews from Galilee (northern Israel) celebrate Passover on Thursday after sunset.  Jesus & disciples Last Supper  The Upper Room Discourse and Jesus High Priestly Prayer  Jesus and Disciples go to Mount of Olives (Garden of Gethsemane) overnight to pray. See chapters Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; John 13-18	Early am betrayal and arrest of Jesus  <b>6 Trials of Jesus</b> (3 Jewish then 3 Roman)  <b>The Passover day.</b> Jews from Judea (southern Israel) would celebrate Passover on Friday.  <b>Sacrifice the lamb.</b> Exodus 12:6 "You shall keep it until the <u>fourteenth</u> day...to kill it at twilight" and Deut 16:6  Jesus is crucified. Jesus' body put in Joseph's tomb before sunset. Day 1.	Jesus' body in the tomb Day 2.  Jewish Feast of Unleavened bread continues for 7 days  Post-resurrection and appearances over the next 40 days to over 500 people  <b>Note 1:</b> Biblical days don't start/end at midnight. See slide below for an explanation of Galilean and Judean start/end Sunrise/Sunset  <b>Note 2:</b> For details on what happened during the hours of Thursday and Friday see the below graphic	Jesus' body in the tomb Day 3.  Jesus is resurrected

## Luke 20:9-18

9 And He began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and rented it out to vine-growers, and went on a journey for a long time.

- 10 "At the harvest time he sent a slave to the vine-growers, so that they would give him some of the produce of the vineyard; but the vine-growers beat him and sent him away empty-handed.
- 11 "And he proceeded to send another slave; and they beat him also and treated him shamefully and sent him away empty-handed.
- 12 "And he proceeded to send a third; and this one also they wounded and cast out.
- 13 "The owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.'
- 14 "But when the vine-growers saw him, they reasoned with one another, saying, 'This is the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance will be ours.'
- 15 "So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What, then, will the owner of the vineyard do to them?
- 16 "He will come and destroy these vine-growers and will give the vineyard to others."
- 17 But Jesus looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written:  
'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED,  
THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone'?
- 18 "Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

**9 And He began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and rented it out to vine-growers, and went on a journey for a long time.**

- **“parable”** – a tool used for teaching. A story, an illustration.
- Renting out land was not uncommon in the first century as it is not uncommon today. A contractual agreement would be set up.
- The absentee land owner was free to live elsewhere and to travel when and where he pleased.
- He must have complete trust in the vine-growers.
- Let’s look at Is. 5:1-7 . . .

**The Owner of the Vineyard** = God the Father

**The Vineyard** = The nation of Israel

**Vine-growers** = The religious rulers of Israel entrusted with leading Israel - chief priests, scribes and Pharisees, and the elders.

**Slaves** = The prophets of God that were persecuted and killed.

**Son** = The Lord Jesus

#### **Isa 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

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him some of the produce of the vineyard; but the vine-growers beat him and sent  
him away empty-handed.
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- 12 "And he proceeded to send a third; and this one also they wounded and cast out.
- 13 "The owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son;  
perhaps they will respect him.'
- 14 "But when the vine-growers saw him, they reasoned with one another, saying, 'This  
is the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance will be ours.'
- 15 "So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What, then, will the owner  
of the vineyard do to them?
- 16 "He will come and destroy these vine-growers and will give the vineyard to others."  
When they heard it, they said, "May it never be!"
- 17 But Jesus looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written:  
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- The owner, at harvest, would like to collect on his investment so he sends a slave.
- But what would shock all those listening to the parable, was the response of the vine-growers who beat the slave.
- There was not only a refusal to pay what was due the owner, but the criminal act of an assault on the slave.
- Wow! Look what the owner does in response - he sends another slave. No charges are brought.
- Same result – they beat him. Now it is time for revenge, right?
- No. The owner sends a third slave who they wound and send away.
- There was great patience and grace displayed by the owner.

**13 "The owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.'**

**14 "But when the vine-growers saw him, they reasoned with one another, saying, 'This is the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance will be ours.'**

**15 "So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What, then, will the owner of the vineyard do to them?**

**16 "He will come and destroy these vine-growers and will give the vineyard to others." When they heard it, they said, "May it never be!"**

- The owner wonders what to do. What would you do?
  - “eye for an eye”
  - take him to court
  - fire the vine-growers and hire a new group.
- **Vs. 13** - The owner decides to send his son. More grace, more patience.
- Certainly they will respect the son.
- **Vs. 14** – They want the inheritance. Kill the son and the inheritance is theirs. They can be in control. They can have it all.
- **Vs. 15** – So they kill the son (premeditated murder). What can the owner do to us?
- **Vs. 16** – Jesus lays it out exactly and definitely what will happen – they will be destroyed (70 AD). Vineyard will go to others.
- They not only hear what Jesus is saying, they understand it – “ακου”
- That is why they give a strange response, “No, no, and a thousand times no. This cannot happen. Israel can’t be destroyed and replaced.” They get it.
- They followed the line of reasoning from Israel’s history and feared if the parable would be true, this could happen.

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18 "Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

**The Owner of the Vineyard** = God the Father. He brought Israel into existence. He leaves the care of Israel to the leaders.

**The Vineyard** = The nation of Israel. The chosen nation and people of God. God expects to receive spiritual fruit back from His ownership of Israel.

**Vine-growers** = The religious rulers of Israel entrusted with leading Israel including chief priests, scribes and Pharisees, Sadducees, the Sanhedrin, and the elders. They fail time and time again.

**Slaves** = The prophets of God that were sent to Israel were persecuted and killed by the religious rulers. The OT gives a detailed vivid description of God sending prophets time and time again to call Israel to produce spiritual fruit.

## **Jer 7:25-26**

25 "Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have sent you all My servants the prophets, daily rising early and sending them.

26 "Yet they did not listen to Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck; they did more evil than their fathers.

## **Jer 25:4**

4 "And the Lord has sent to you all His servants the prophets again and again, but you have not listened nor inclined your ear to hear,

## **Matt 23:37-38**

37 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.

38 "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate!

**Son** = Finally God sends His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will be mistreated and killed by Israel’s leadership along with the Romans.



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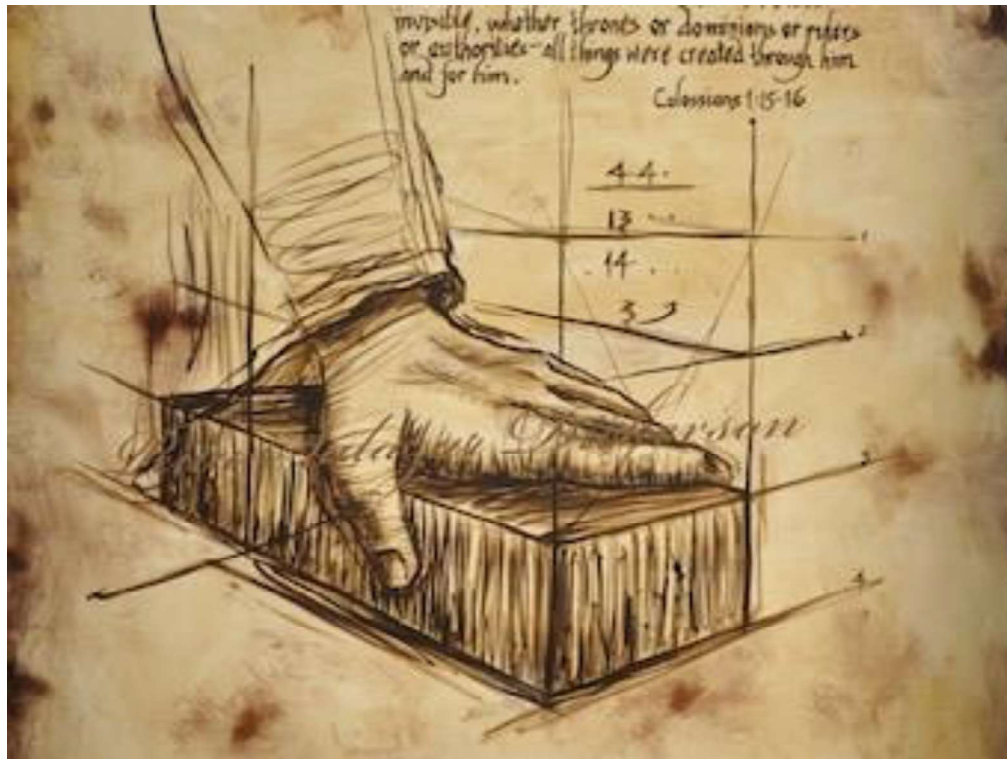
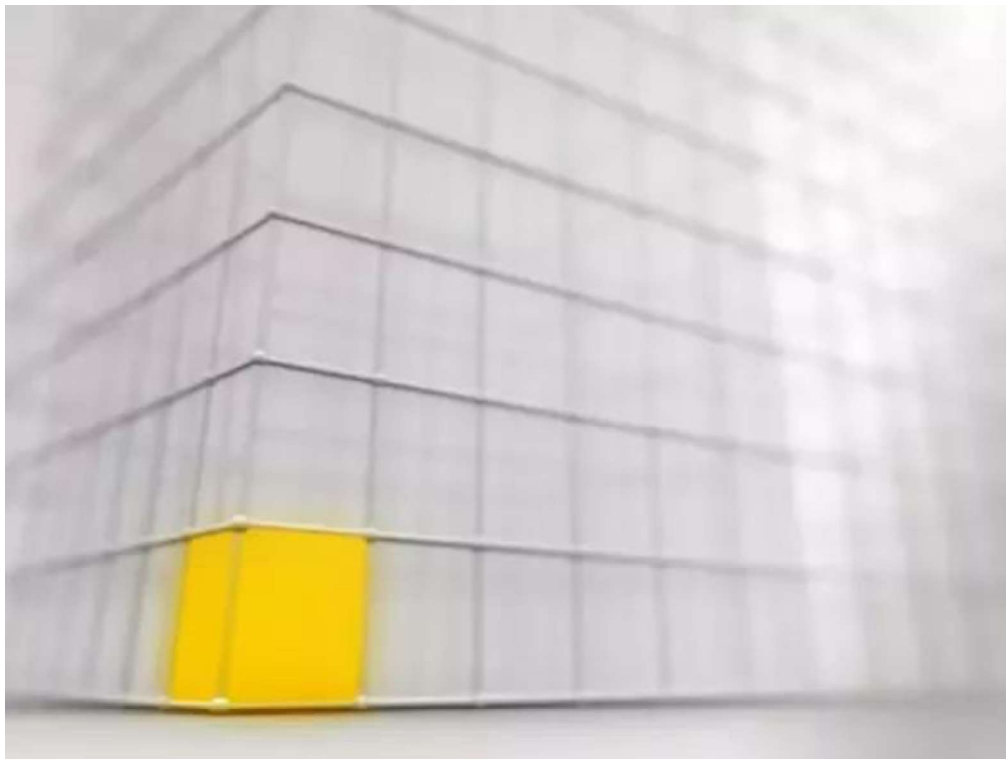
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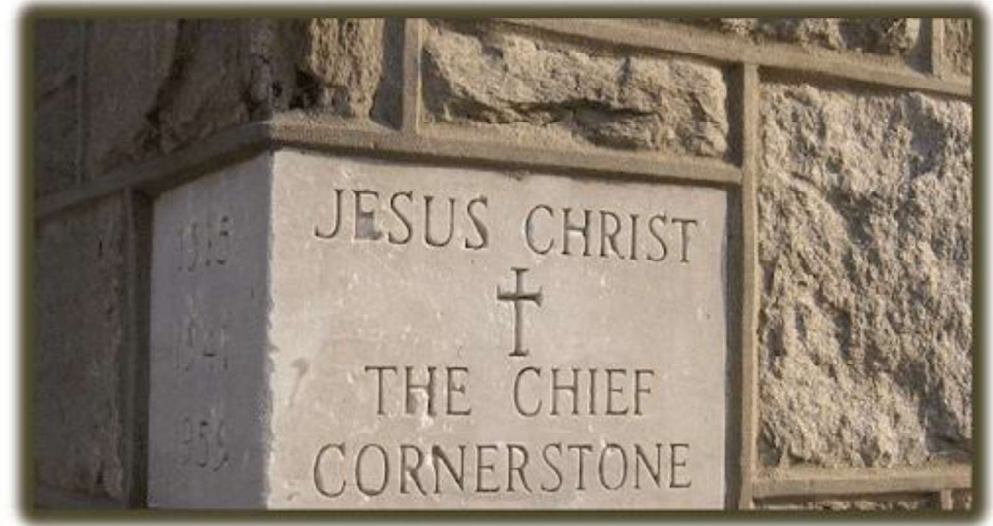
**'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED,**

**THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone'?**

**18 "Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever the chief corner stone falls, it will scatter him like dust.**

- The dead son is not the end of the story.
- He rises from the dead and becomes the "chief corner stone."
- What is a corner stone? It is the first and most important stone when erecting a building in the first century.
- Builders would reject stones until they found the perfect one for their building.





**17** But Jesus looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written: *'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone'*?"

**18** "Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever the chief corner stone falls, it will scatter him like dust.

- However here in this passage the religious builders are not looking for the perfect corner stone but at their own perfection achieved through self-righteousness.
- They reject Jesus because He does not fit "their building." He is offensive to them and their man-made religious system.

#### **Ps 118:22**

22 The stone which the builders rejected  
Has become the chief corner stone.

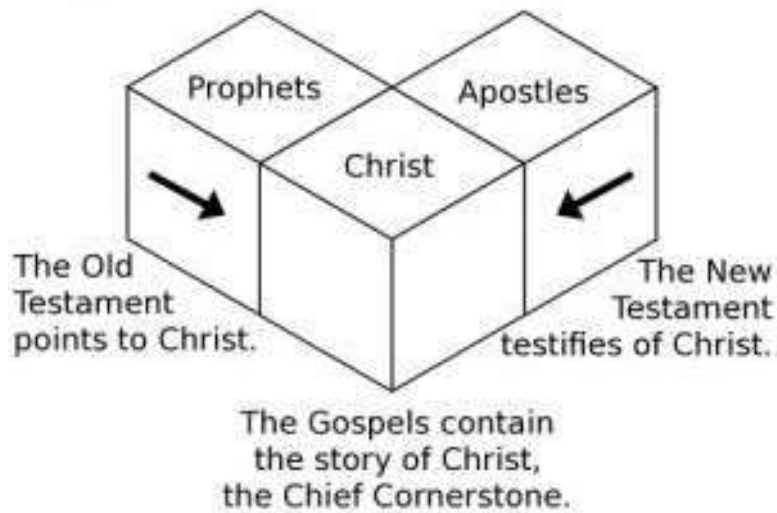
- **Vs. 18** – You either reject the chief corner stone (stumble and fall on the stone) and are smashed, or the chief corner stone rejects you and you are crushed in judgment.
- **"stumble"** – you just can't get around it. The religious leaders just kept stumbling – His humble birth, His ability to expose their system, His servanthood, His mission, etc.
- If this foundation-stone is not the means of your salvation, it will be the means of your ruin.

#### **Eph 2:20**

20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,

- So here is the Church. The **Church** is now the people of God who have temporarily replaced Israel.

16 "He will come and destroy these vine-growers and will give the vineyard to **others**." When they heard it, they said, "May it never be!"



### The Church's One Foundation

The Church's one foundation  
 Is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
 She is His new creation  
 By water and the Word:  
 From heav'n He came and sought her  
 To be His holy Bride;  
 With His own blood He bought her,  
 And for her life He died.

### 1 Peter 2:7-8

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.

### Application

1. You just have to marvel at the graciousness and patience of God.
2. The Lord Jesus is the perfect standard. It is by Him and His Word that we measure all things.
3. There is no room for indifference. There is no riding the fence. You either receive Him or you reject Him and face judgment.