The Obligations of Privilege

Ken Chapman · Mark 12:1–12

INTRODUCTION

- Someone has defined a parable as an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.
- The landowner, the owner of the vineyard, obviously represents God the Father. The vineyard itself, really, is the nation of Israel.
- A secondary lesson, an application to us and to Israel at the time, is the point that look at the privilege that you've been given.

1 We Learn Something About Christ

Mark 12:6–7

- It is said of Christ in this parable that he is the son and he is the heir.
- God, who at various times and in various ways spoke to us by the prophets, has in the last days spoken to us by his son, whom he's appointed heir of all things.
- Jesus had made all of these bold claims about himself. And now at his death, he says, I am the Son, and I am the heir.

2 What We Learn About Man

Isaiah 5:1–7

- The vineyard that represented Israel had every possible advantage given to it.
- Everything had been done for them. And what did they do in return?
- Sometimes it's like looking in a mirror if we're honest. At how God has blessed us far beyond maybe even how He blessed Israel.
- We count our blessings so that we can praise Him from whom all blessings flow.
- With every counted blessing comes with it a great weight of responsibility. From whom much has been given. Much will be required, Jesus said.
- Maybe I need to hang my head in shame that I'm not doing more.

3 The Absolute Freedom of Man

- God gave Israel chance after chance after chance.
- He wasn't short-tempered, he was long-tempered.
- But God gave them freedom. And he gives us that freedom.
- Fate is what we're compelled to do. Destiny is what we were meant to do.
- We need to talk less about fate and more about destiny, of what God wants of us.

4 God's Gracious Dealings With Israel

Romans 2:4

- It's equally a parable about God's gracious dealings with Israel. That he would send them servant after servant.
- He will finally send his son with full knowledge of what they will do to his beloved son. But he did it anyway.
- Do you despise the riches of his goodness, forbearance, and long suffering? Not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance.
- Paul says it is equally the goodness of God that will lead me to repentance.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **What will we do with the grace and the mercy of God? What will we do with his son?**

MY NOTES