



Jerusalem and the Temple of Herod by James Tissot (1836-1902)



Jesus and the Kingdom of God Matthew 16-28 Who is Jesus? 1. Mar 5 16:13-28 Caesarea Philippi 2. Mar 12 Is Jesus Fully God? 17:1-13 **Transfiguration**

- What Is Required? 19:16-26 **Rich Young Ruler Mar 19**
- More than a Prophet 21:1-11 **Triumphant Entry** Mar 26
- 21:33-45 Wicked Tenants Apr 2 If I Reject Jesus?
- 6. Apr 9 **Wedding Banquet** 22:1-14 Offered to All?
- Happy Easter 7. Apr 16 Where Is Jesus? 28:1-15 Resurrection Parable 24:36-51 8. Apr 23 What About the Future? Thief in Night

Parable

Parable

- **How Do We Remember?** 26:36-46 Last Supper 9. Apr 30
- 10. May 7 Do I Have the Strength? **26:36-46** Gethsemane
- 11. May 14 Loyal? 26-63-75 Peter's Denial
- 12. May 21 Crucified 27:41-52 Crucifixion
- 13. May 28 What Do We Do Now? 28:16-20 Great Commission



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Lesson Author's Theme

Jesus is central in God's plan of redemption

Matthew

21:14-32 Heals & Confronts Connivers

21:33-37 Son Sent – Landowner's Servants Beaten by Tenants

21:38-39 Son Rejected – Tenants Kill Son

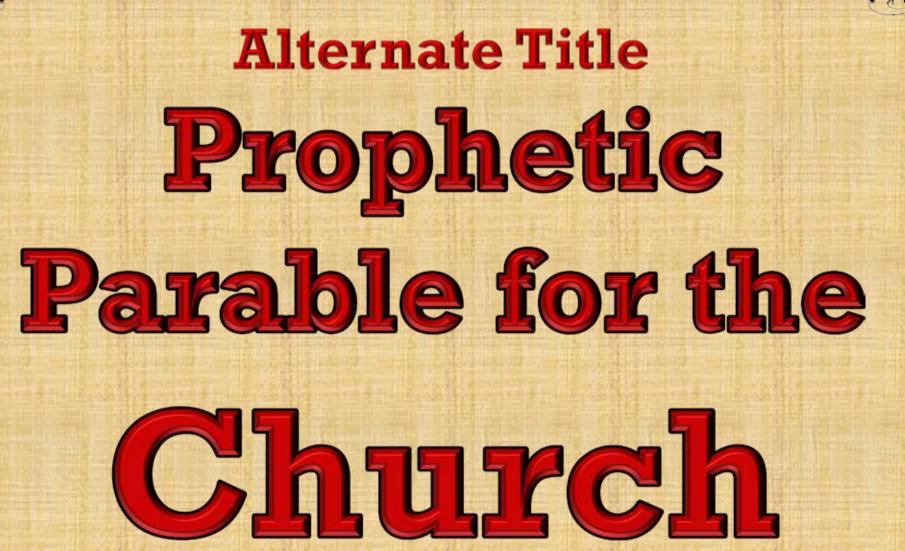
21:40-46 Owner Destroys Tenants – Rejected Cornerstone Reigns

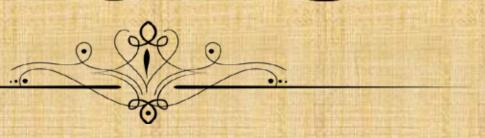


Christ before Caiaphas, c. 1630 by Matthias Stom (1615-49)









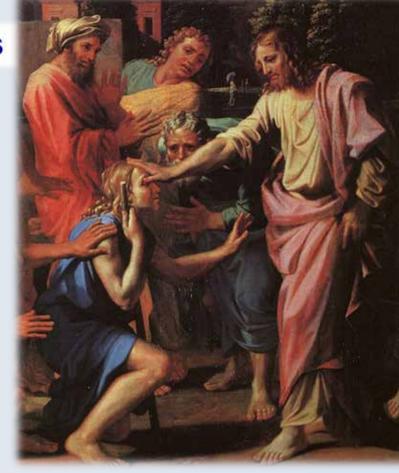


14 The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them.

This ... my friends ... is



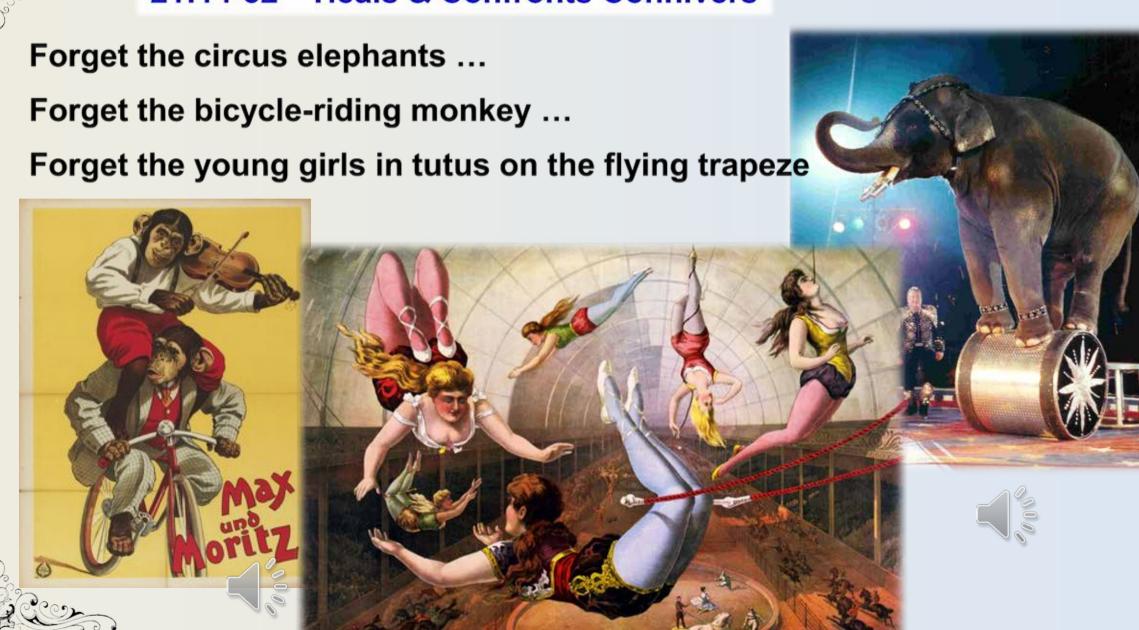
Healing the BLIND ... the LAME



Jesus Heal the Blind Man, 1650 by Nicolas Poussin

Jesus is HEALING ALL







To the TEMPLE they came ...

Rich and Poor ...

The Greatest Show on Earth

15 Chief priests & Top Clowns were indignant

Indignant =

anger over injustice, a wrong

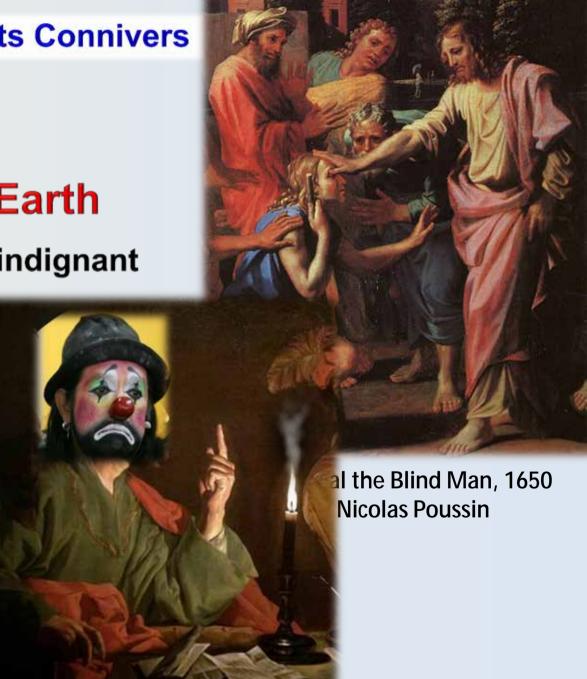
They could not handle the truth

Religious LEADERS connived

Healing – bad if NOT from them

Worship - ONLY through them

Christ before Caiaphas, c. 1630 by Matthias Stom (1615-49)



Jesus – healing Rich and Poor ... at NO cost!

THE Greatest Show on Earth

Healing the BLIND – they cannot fight that Religious LEADERS hated Jesus for

- ✓ Stealing their show of piety
- Disrupting their graft on prayer
- ✓ Confounding their view of God
- ✓ Confronting their blindness

For the religious leaders ... not just tables

Their WORLD ... turned upside down



Jesus Heal the Blind Man, 1650 by Nicolas Poussin

Jesus just DRIVES it home

16 "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "From the lips of children and infants you,

Lord have called forth your project??"

Lord, have called forth your praise'?"

They could not handle the TRUTH

Kind of reminds me of a not-so-old movie scene

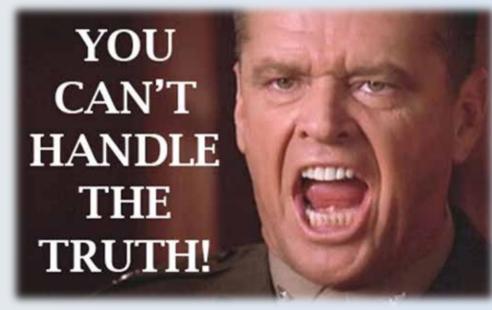
1992 movie, A Few Good Men

Tom Cruise plays a head-strong lawyer

Goes after Jack Nicholas, an egotistic

Col. Nathan R. Jessup

a proud over-the-top Marine Commandant







Without Video Clip For PowerPoint Show:

<u>www.PreciousHeart.net/SS/Matthew-21B.ppsx</u>





16 "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?"

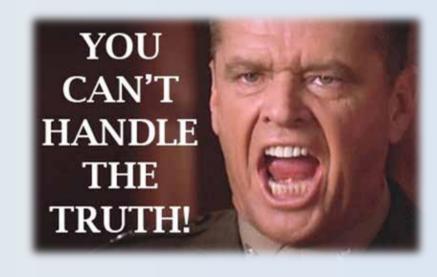
Jesus slaps their faces ...

Even CHILDREN know better ...

Chief Priests and Top Clowns ...

They could NOT handle THE Truth

THE way, THE Life



Like Col. Nathan R. Jessup Chief Priests & Top Clowns

SERIOUSLY believed ...

They WERE the TRUTH

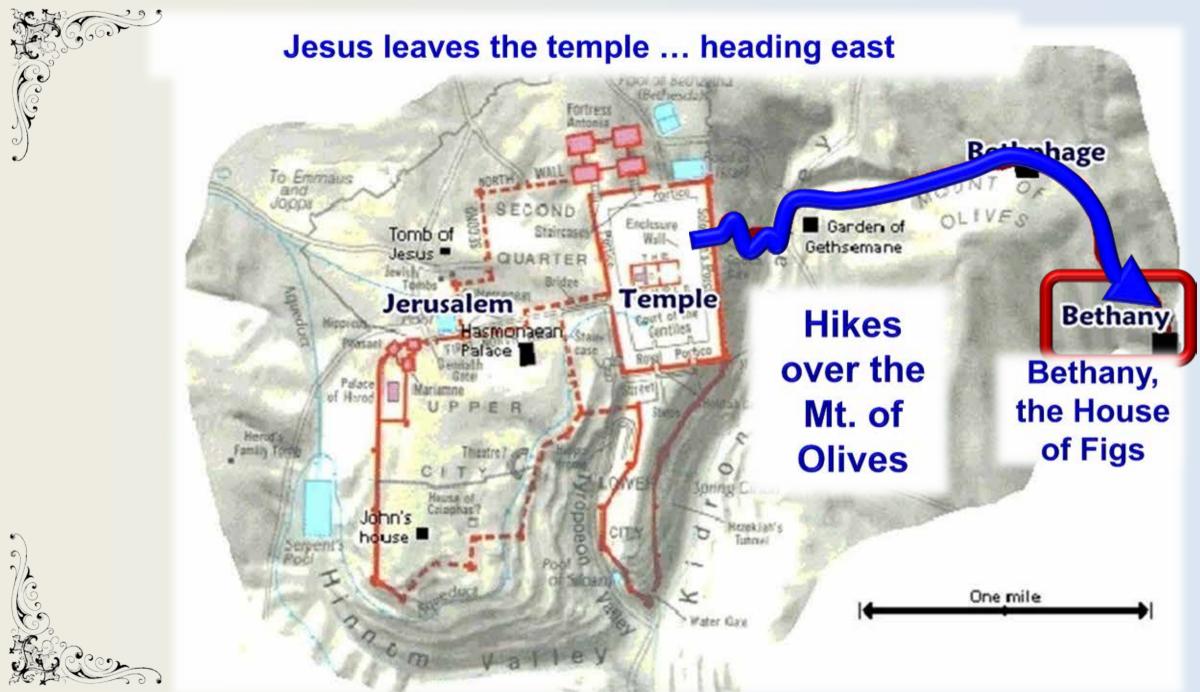


17 And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.

Jesus leaves the Temple ... heads for Bethany



Bethany, 1865





18 Early in the morning, as Jesus was on his way back to Jerusalem, he was hungry.

19-20 Jesus curses a barren fig tree & it dies.

Amazed disciples ask, "How did the fig tree wither so quickly?" ...

Really? ... reallly ?????

Jesus cursed the tree ... and they ask WHAT?

I guess they had not had their coffee yet

Not offended ... or surprised

Jesus gives them one of our favorite verses:



Fig Tree Cursed woodcut, 1695 by Joseph Christoph Weigel

²¹ Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt,

not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done.

In Matthew 17, after Jesus came down from the Mt. of Transfiguration

A man approached Jesus about his son, who had seizures, causing him to fall into the fire ...



Figs Cursed, Icon from Cathedral of St Andrew, Patras, Greece

21:14-32 Heals & Confronts Co

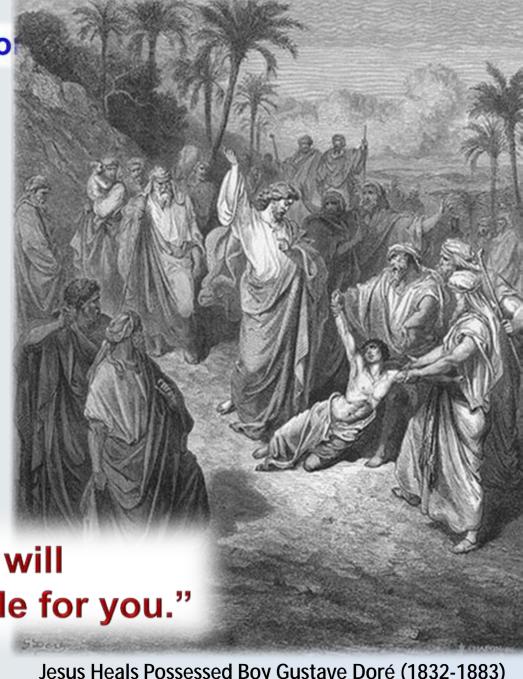
Matthew 17:18

18 Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment.

19 Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

²⁰ He replied, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain,

'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."



²¹ Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt,

not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain,

'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done.

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."



From figs cursed ...

To healing a demon-possessed boy ...

To moving mountains ...

Then ... to carte blanche ...

to the Blank Check ...

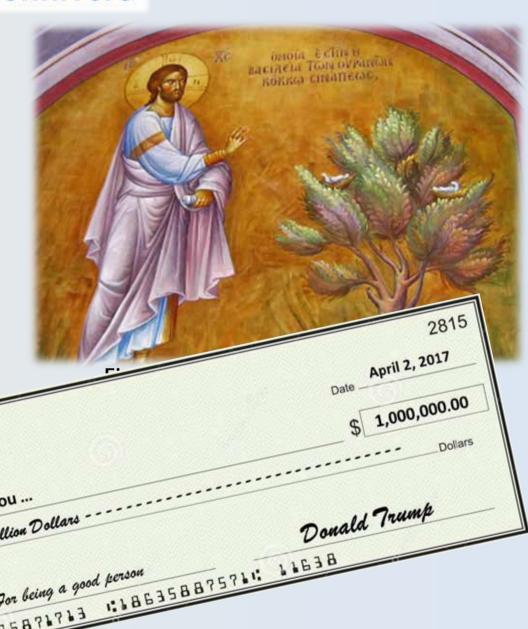
²² If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.

Really? ... yes, really!!!

the caveat ...

the condition is "BELIEVE"





Now ... talk about depressing!

The disciples asked why they could not

Jesus told them they COULD ...

If only they BELIEVED ... and, tada ...

That's it ... finis ...

For certain, the disciples **BELIEVED**

Just NOT the way JESUS BELIEVED

Fear not ... it's true ...

If the disciples could not ... nor can you

Know there is more to this

More than Jesus wanted to share



²³ Jesus entered the temple courts ... chief priests ask, "By what authority are you doing these things?"

²⁴⁻²⁵ Jesus asks about John's baptism.

25-27 John's baptism—where from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?"

They connive an answer, "Don't know."

Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

Then Jesus gives another short parable

Baptism of Christ, First Luminous Mystery, 1690 by Antoine Coypel (1661-1722)



21:28-32 Parable of Two Sons & John, Prostitutes, Tax Men

28 "What do you think? Jesus tells a parable of a father asking two sons to go into the field.

- ✓ One says, "NO," then goes –
- ✓ Other says, "YES," but never goes
- 31 "Which did father's will?"

"The first," they answered.

Jesus, "Truly I tell you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.

For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.



Parables ...

33 "Listen to another parable: There was a man, a landowner ...

Parable = Greek παραβολή = par-a-bow-lay

Teaching through a STORY = comparison or word illustration

Not a FABLE, that usually uses animals, plants and often fantasy

Short Tale or Story that illustrates or REVEALS a Universal Truth

Scholars of the Middle Ages took an allegorical approach

Meaning that EVERY element of the story related to life

Not the TRUE meaning of a parable ...

Usually a parable has ONE or just a FEW relations

Parables of Jesus 12. LOST SHEEP 13. UNMERCIFUL SERVANT 1. SOWER 14. LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD 2. SEED GROWING SECRETLY 15. TWO SONS 3. MUSTARD SEED 16. WEDDING FEAST 4. TENANTS 17. GOOD SAMARITAN 5. BUDDING FIG TREE 18. TEN VIRGINS 24 Parables 6. FAITHFUL SERVANT 19. THE TALENTS Some add 25th 7. WHEAT AND TARES **RICH MAN** 20. TWO DEBTORS 8. LEAVEN AND LAZARUS 21. RICH FOOL 9. HIDDEN TREASURE I think it was in 22. LOST COIN a class by itself 10. THE PEARL 23. PRODIGAL SON THE NET 11. 24. UNJUST STEWARD

Parables ...

Perhaps the two Most Famous of Jesus' parables are

- ✓ The Prodigal Son
- ✓ The Good Samaritan

Prodigal Son ... several lessons Value of the lost coming home

Easiest, though, most Parable-like

Good Samaritan

Who is Your Neighbor?

One that Helped



21:33-37 Son Sent – Landowner's Servants Beaten

33 "Listen to another parable: There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and

built a watchtower.

This parable's TRUTH is harder to see

Harder to see *IMMEDIATELY*

Almost an allegory because it is LONG

Applies in SEVERAL ways to many people

Powerful & ominous



21:33-37 Son Sent – Landowner's Servants Beaten

33 "Listen to another parable: a landowner ... plants a vineyard ... fences it ... dug a winepress ... built a watchtower.

He did ALL the work

He leased it to tenant farmers and he went away.

That is ...

God, the Father, trusted the Temple

To the Jews then went away!



October, with The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

Engraved by Adriaen Collaert (1560-1618)

After a painting by Hans Bol (1554-1593)

Notice October Scorpio – Scorpion

Christ speaking w priests ...





Wicked Husbandmen an etching by Jan Luyken for the

Bowyer Bible by Robert Bowyer (1758-1834)





21:33-37 Son Sent – Landowner's Servants Beaten

34 When the grape harvest drew near, he sent his slaves to the farmers to collect his fruit.

35 But the farmers took his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned a third.

³⁶ Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first group, and they did the same to them.

That is ... God sent the prophets

And Jews killed the prophets too

God's ownership was rejected!



Parable of the Wicked Husbandmen Tenants

21:33-37 Son Sent – Landowner's Servants Beaten

The owner of the field ...

³⁷ Finally, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said.

And they rejected the SON too ...

Look at all that is happening

Jewish LEADERS conspired ... SLY

Chief Priests connive ... to KILL

They deny that the world is round

They SAW the raising of Lazarus ... from Bethany, just over the Mt. of Olives

They SEE the healing of the BLI



21:38-39 Son Rejected – Tenants Kill Son

Jesus is DRIVING THIS HOME!

38 "But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said among themselves,

'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance!'

39 So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

This is a SIMPLE parable ...



After this portion alone ...



Wicked Husbandmen of the Parable Murder the Son in the Phillip Medhurst Bible

After the KILLING of the SON We ALL see and know ...

These were WICKED Tenants

Jesus is CLEAR ...

No moral ethic is needed

NORMAL sensitivities SCREAM

NO ONE doubts ... no one!

Tenants were trusted ...

Tenants betrayed that trust ...

Worse ... they KILLED the SON



Wicked Husbandmen of the Parable Murder the Son in the Phillip Medhurst Bible

Jesus drives this HOME

Worse ... they killed

They KILLED their

BENEFACTOR

Murder is bad, bad, bad!

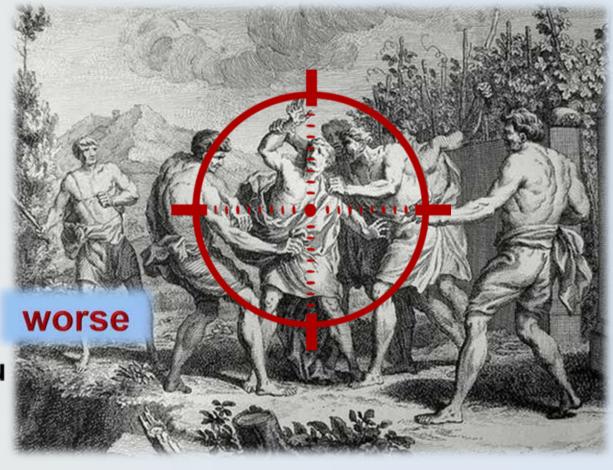
KILL the one who HELPED you is

KILL the one who EMPLOYED you

KILL the one who gave you LIFE

They betrayed a benevolence ...

ah, ALL THERE THAT DAY SAW



Wicked Husbandmen of the Parable Murder the Son in the Phillip Medhurst Bible

Jesus drives this HOME

Life is NOT fair ... sure, we know

Then see the wicked ... the rotten

JEWISH LEADERS themselves

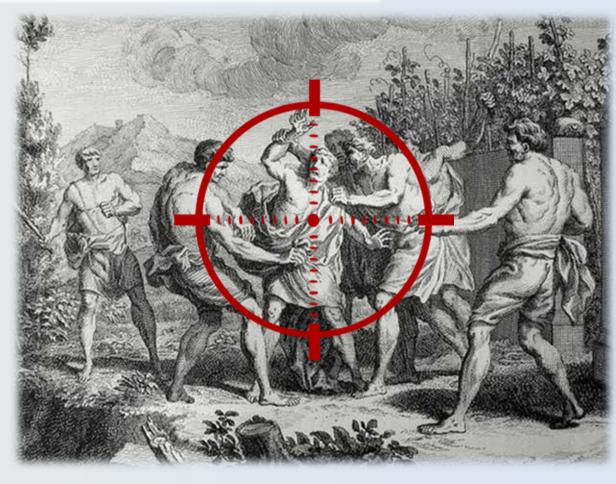
God was their

BENEFACTOR

Jesus, the SON, was HEALING

THEY WANT TO KILL JESUS

ah, Jesus has *already* told his disciples about this ...



Wicked Husbandmen of the Parable Murder the Son in the Phillip Medhurst Bible

After cleansing the temple

After healing more and more ...

After the cursed fig tree ...

After healing demon-possessed ...

After parable of two sons ...

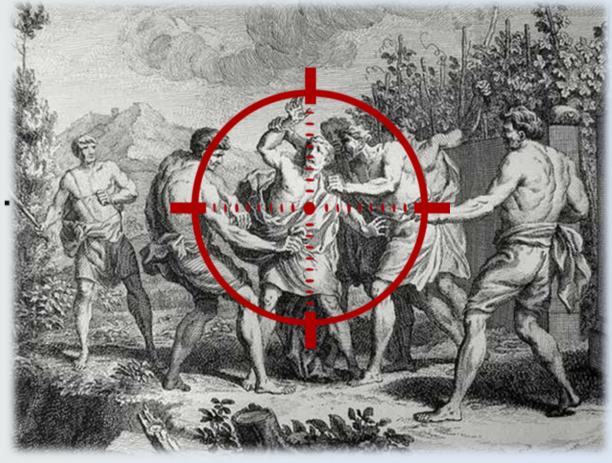
After proving "by what authority"

Jesus DRIVES home wickedness

Jewish leaders are WICKED

NOT keeping TRUST God gave them

Even reading their minds ...



Wicked Husbandmen of the Parable Murder the Son in the Phillip Medhurst Bible

⁴⁰ Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?"

What? ... at this point ...

Clarity of the Justice is plain

They deserved destruction

Remember, when Jesus came
THIS time up the Jericho Road ...

When at Bethphage he looked at Jerusalem ... according to Luke

Jesus wept over Jerusalem



The tragic prophecy in Luke is worth recalling

Luke 19 – ⁴¹ As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city,

he wept over it

42 and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.

43 The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side.



Caveat ...

Prepare yourself for the Saddest day in Jewish History

to the ground, you and the children within your walls.

They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you.

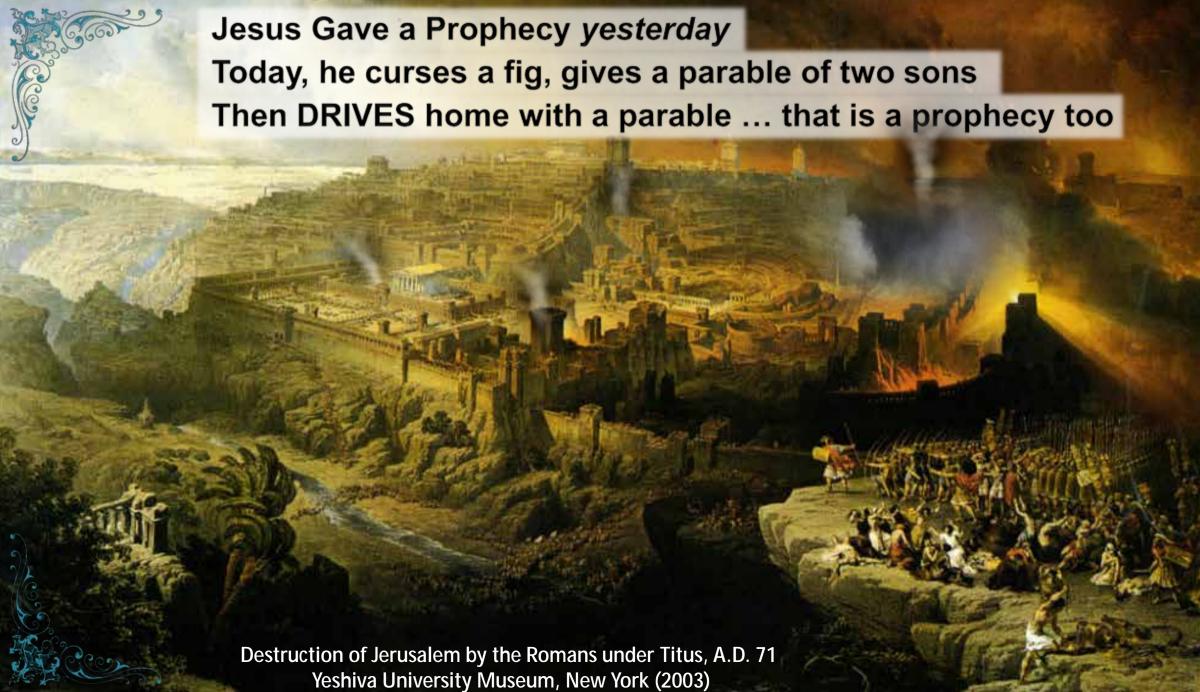
Jesus said this yesterday

Now, after MORE healing

Jesus drives it home with a simple, yet very brutal prophetic parable.



Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus, A.D. 71
Yeshiva University Museum, New York (2003)
Gift of Michael Jesselson





⁴⁰ Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?"

Not pleasant ...

Clarity of the Justice—easy to see

They deserved destruction

41 "He will completely destroy those terrible men," they told Him, "and lease his vineyard to other farmers who will give him his produce at the harvest."

New Lease? ... to whom?



Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus, A.D. 71 Yeshiva University Museum, New York (2003)

The Church Will Be God's Hand in the World

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the CORNERSTONE.

This came from the Lord and is wonderful in our eyes?

43 Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing its fruit.

Reject Jesus ... reject ALL

Accept Jesus ... get ALL



Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus, A.D. 71 Yeshiva University Museum, New York (2003)

One would think that would be enough ...
but Jesus continues

RECALL the WEEPING Prophecy of Jerusalem's destruction ...

RECALL a parable on two sons

Then a longer, more detailed, brutal parable on wicked tenants

ENOUGH already ... but NO!

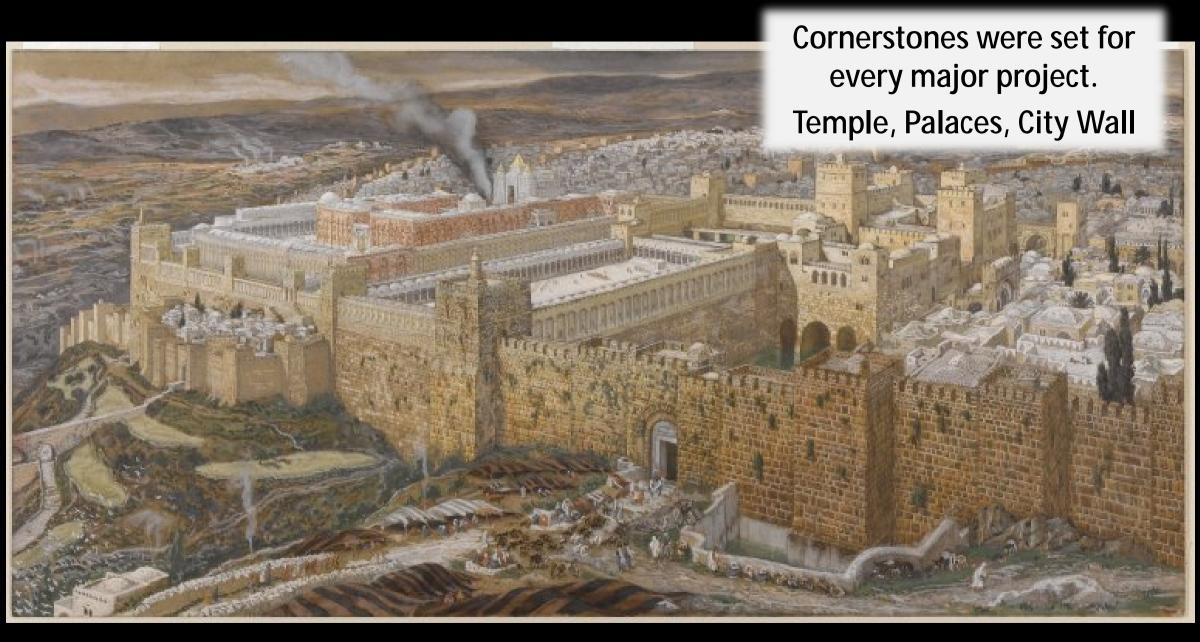
Jesus adds to ALL THE ABOVE

Quoting & Expounding their own holy scriptures ... at length!



Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus, A.D. 71 Yeshiva University Museum, New York (2003)

CORNERSTONE ... 44 Whoever falls on this STONE will be broken to pieces; but ON whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder!"



Jerusalem and the Temple of Herod by James Tissot (1836-1902)

CORNERSTONE ...

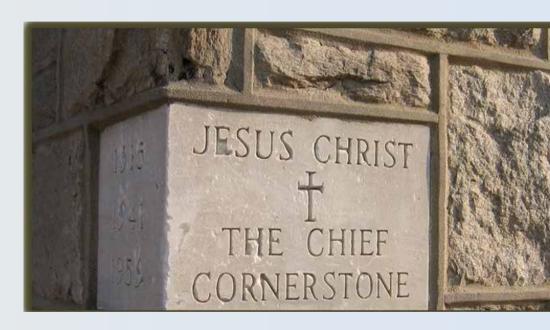
44 Whoever falls on this STONE will be broken to pieces; but ON whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder!"

Most serious prophecy ...

In Architecture and older Masonry the CORNERSTONE was KEY

By it ALL the rest of the building was set and squared ...

Cornerstone was also the BEST the most beautiful piece of stone



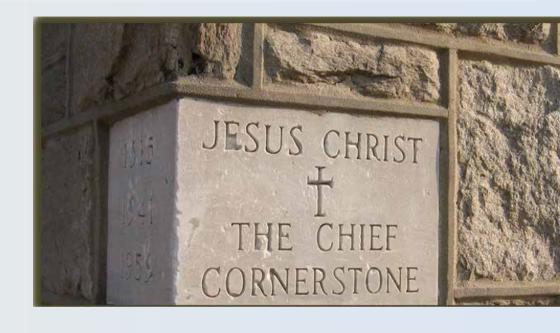
CORNERSTONE ...

Acts 4:11, stone which ... is become the HEAD OF THE CORNER.

Ephesians 2:20-22, And are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the CHIEF CORNER STONE..

1 Peter 2:4-8, almost poetic

As you come to him, the Living Stone ... you also, like Living Stones, are being built into a Spiritual House ...



"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious

CORNERSTONE

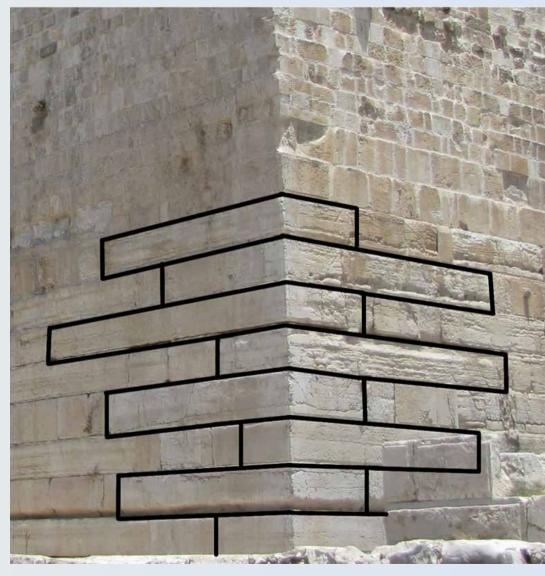
the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."



The Cornerstone

Ashlars SW corner Temple Mount Some weigh 80 tons 40 x 8 x 3.5 feet, interlocking





The Cornerstone

Nebuchadnezzar Cunneiform Cylinder 8.25" x 3.25" – tells of a cornerstone

2014, Auctioned by Doyle, of New York for whopping \$605,000

1st Temple by Solomon c. 970 B.C.

Nebuchadnezzar destroyed in 587 B.C.

Nebuchadnezzar rebuilt temples all over Babylonia ... Sippar, already 2,000 yrs old when Jerusalem was razed in 587

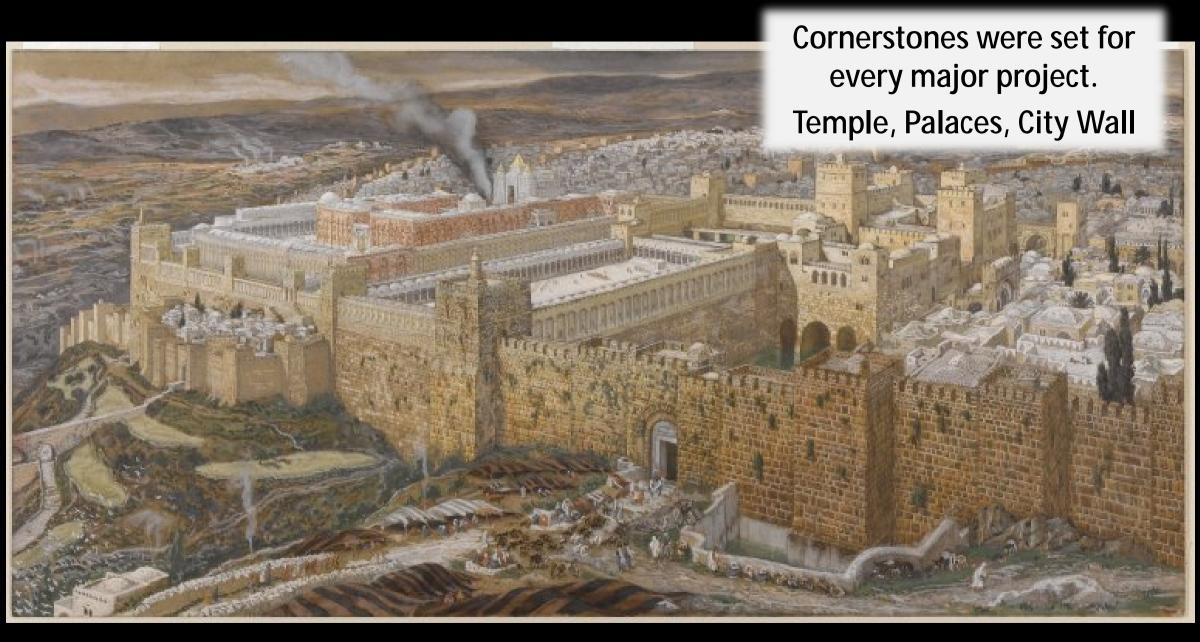
2nd Temple c. 516 B.C. Ezra/Nehemiah

King Herod renovated c. 20 B.C.



E-barra, the radiant abode of the gods ... which had long ago fallen into disrepair in Sippar.... I found its old cornerstone.... Over its old cornerstone I laid its foundation. ... I caused it to shine like the bright day.

Sippar occupied in 2500 B.C.



Jerusalem and the Temple of Herod by James Tissot (1836-1902)

Jesus TIES the parable to THEIR own scriptures and gives another PROPHECY

44 Whoever falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder!"

Jesus is foretelling the Doom of the Clowns

Chief Priests & Top Clowns turned the Temple into a

Den of Thieves



Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus, A.D. 71 Yeshiva University Museum, New York (2003)

Chief Priests ...
seek to KILL Jesus



Jesus gave a parable that was also a prophecy ...

Then he doubled up on it ...

Jesus hammered from their Scriptures ... undeniable

Then Jesus clarifies all with himself as Cornerstone

Chief Priests, Top Clowns SAW

21:45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard His parables,

they knew He was speaking about them.



Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus, A.D. 71 Yeshiva University Museum, New York (2003)

In a clarity NO ONE can miss
In a parable ALL could see

Chief Priests & Top Clowns are slain with a simple parable

⁴⁶ Although they were looking for a way to arrest Him, they feared the crowds, because they—
the people, laborers in the field—
regarded Jesus as a prophet.

Indeed ... the Greatest Show

Jesus,

HEALING ALL in the TEMPLE

At the SAME time

Debunking the Clowns



Soon ... the cross
Temple Curtain Torn
Church Begins



Parable of Wicked Tenants

Is also the Parable of the Old Tenants' Destruction to Dust

is also the Parable of the Old Tenants' Replacement with the Church

Clowns tripped on the Cornerstone

Cornerstone FELL on the Clowns grinding them to dust

At the Cross, the Curtain Tore
At Pentecost, the Church Rose



Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans under Titus, A.D. 71 Yeshiva University Museum, New York (2003)

A.D. 70, Temple Destroyed Prophecy Fulfilled

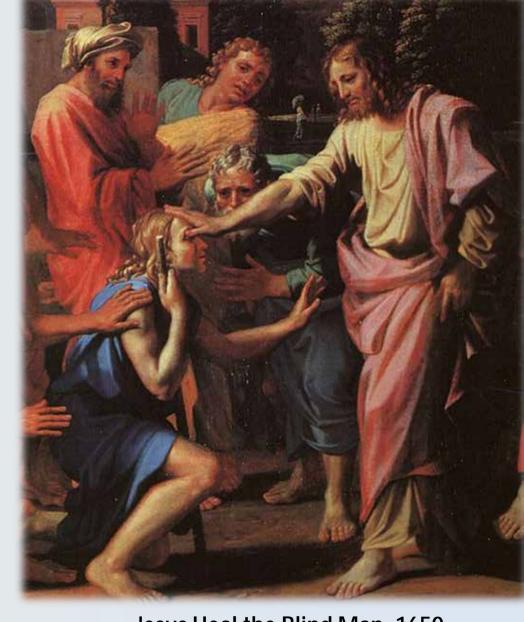
Jesus' Healing of the Blind & Lame in the Temple

Gives way to the Church Today
CHURCH Giving SPIRITUAL
Sight to the Blind –

we SEE with our Heart

Healing to the Lame – we WALK by Faith

No more Temple ... now Christ now LIVES in us ...



Jesus Heal the Blind Man, 1650 by Nicolas Poussin

We Are the New Tenants
the Church this side of Heaven

That Shall be Our Errit

What Shall be Our Fruit?

Be Good Caretakers of

God's Vineyard

Nazareth, 1842, The Holy Land, by David Roberts

FBC Woodville Sunday School Class Michael G. Maness see



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