

that becomes pure vanity and pride within itself. Jesus warned against those who love the best seats and best places. They should do their jobs, and give to God what belongs to God!

God's harvests are the people who hear God's word and accept his great love and mercy. He wants a loving relationship with all people, and then for these people to have good loving relationships with each other. That way, his kingdom grows and the more it grows then; the more people there will be who will gather into God's kingdom.

So the point Jesus is stressing to the Pharisees is that if the people [tenants-Pharisees] whom God has put in charge over his vineyard [kingdom] are not gathering his

fruit and providing a harvest, then naturally he will put other people in charge who are willing to do his work in the vineyard.

This now brings us to the new people. And the reference to the new people [The Gentiles] are the ones who will bear more fruit [because they are willing to do so] when they hear the good news of the kingdom that Jesus Christ is Lord and has now come down to his people. The new people still include God's own chosen people the Jews and together, this is the harvest [if possible the whole world] he wants to collect.

Just in conclusion, what matters in the end, is our relationship to Jesus. If people in general reject him [which seems to be the

case right now in this world], then, they will be rejecting themselves out of God's kingdom. The Pharisees struggled with who Jesus was yet some have come to accept him as God's Son [i.e. Nicodemus].

The kingdom of God was taken away from the Jewish leaders and given to a people producing the fruit of it. This was done through later the Dispersion of the Church and taken to the Gentiles who became the new people of God if they will accept him. And finally, the new people of God all have a responsibility to live in the righteousness of the law as interpreted by Jesus. Amen.

5.10. 2008.

PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

Text: MATT. 21:33-45.

THEME:

What is our relationship to Jesus and do we realize that what God has given us so that kingdom grows all the time [fruit, repentance and the new people of God].

God may provide with more rain to revive and refresh their fruits and crops before harvest time. Now, more so that ever, many people, apart from Christians and farmers; but people in general who care about the welfare of the land; are starting to look up towards the heavens and trees around the place are encouraging still that other people to pray to God for rain. This is something that has been unheard of for a long time.

Spring is in the air and the smells and aromas from the plants, shrubs and trees are encouraging still that other people to pray to God for rain. This is something that has been unheard of for a long time.

When all the trees are budding, the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming... I guess that people are finding themselves a repentant heart to seek God's blessing upon the land and in particular the River system, because of the many abuses of it during the past and in current practices.

That's the time of the blessing upon the land and in particular the River system, because of the many abuses of it during the past and in current practices.

Even though there has been some nasty weather [around lately], but that given to us come from Other fruits that God has given to us come from

our bodies through procreation. And we can give back our fruits to God in baptism, so that children born are blessed and become his children. Through this baptism of the water and the Word of God, a child [in most cases] is now admitted into the kingdom of God. And according to our gospel lesson and parable, this is the fruit being produced for the kingdom of God which comes through the other tenants [the new people] of the vineyard namely the Church and through the Gentiles.

The Pharisees of course, did not equate that the privilege of being leaders over the Jewish nation, meant not being primarily teachers-of-the-law and keeping the populace strictly adhering to these rules



Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9:00am & 10:45am

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Reaching Out with the Love of Jesus that All my Know, Worship & Grow in Christ

and regulations. But that some are even killed. The son obviously is recognized as the heir grow people to worship. And this process is and the tenant farmers God other than by repeated a few times, decide to kill him so that Pharisee/synagogue because there were other they can have his method. God saw that servants sent out to do inheritance.

the people became this same task and had oppressed and under the same terrible things. But unlike the parallel of stress in this situation. done to them. This the Jews and Jesus; here The Pharisees also did though, in essence, the tenant farmers not believe that Jesus shows the long-suffering clearly failed to reckon was God's own Son, and compassion of Our on a possibility that the they were unrepentant of Loving heavenly Father master of the harvest this. in sending out would one day return and the punishment they would receive.

So for the sermon
proper what I will be
briefly looking at
today, are the fruit,
repentance and the
new people of God.

The new people are the Church and Gentiles.

generation after Coming' of Jesus. The And let's begin with the generation of prophets to Bible tells us that "Jesus fruit. In the parable, the Israel. As we know, they is coming again" and season of the fruits has were sent out to utter the this time it will be to arrived and at this words of the Lord, and take his people with him. important time, servants they were stoned and Isn't this true for all have been sent out to killed for carrying out Christians that when collect this fruit. As his will just as it is in the Jesus comes again, that; Lord of the harvest, the parable. 'this is the day we've all been waiting for!'

landowner wanted what And as with this parable servants to do their intertwined with reality, In fact, who amongst us master's bidding. Now in the end the master believes this? Who instead of receiving their sends his son, confident doesn't? Isn't this what share of the fruit, they that these people, who we all desire? W should are met with shock/ are in charge of his all be getting excited horror, because not only estate, will accept him as about this aspect of are these servants though it was the master believing? This is the resisted, but they are himself coming out to culmination of all we severely beaten and collect his rightful share. profess to be and it will

be the fulfilment of what in him. All those who do futility of their own we've been hoping for! not believe, will be cast efforts, especially when This is the great hope we outside of his presence, its too late. Everything have. This is the or into hell if you like, people do outside of God defining truth. either way without him will always be done in in it will be sheer hell, vain!

But what is true and because away from his good for one group of presence there is no When we look at people, will be hard on light, but utter darkness. repentance; then it's the others who don't hard to look past the believe at all or have This parable is a pretty Pharisees. They are the given up believing. As hard one, and it pulls no main protagonists in this you know, there are two punches as to what will parable and the leaders types of people, those happen to those who of Judaism and who believe and _____ synagogue worship those who don't, which they adhere Jesus said, no one God will come for his harvest. strictly to. Good on them for their and serve both God zealotness for and money; it is one upholding the Law, choice or the other. but they did not

want to live in their own recognize Jesus as God's Think about those who little world. In particular own Son. They stopped have heard the Word, if people want to be a short of allowing the and are now living as law unto themselves and gospel to grow, that's though Jesus is not be their own little gods. why they're likened to returning? Won't they In particular; if they the tenant farmers who be in for a big shock? intend to live in a world killed the servants to But not only them, but of their own making, collect the fruit of the the whole world who where they believe they harvest. aren't his will wonder can reign supreme as what is going on when king or queen. The perplexing point Christ returns. about the tenants

And if this is the case wanting to collect the Okay, it may not happen with them, then they had harvest themselves is in our lifetime but it is better enjoy it to the interesting. And if we going to happen. God's fullest, for when they get translate that to the Word tells us so. God's exposed for leaving God Pharisees wanting the Word is also telling us out of the equation come limelight and attention that there is going to be a Judgement Day; they because they are the Law penalty for not believing will then realise the keepers in Judaism, then