

Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 9/29/20

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- Other faith questions?

READINGS:

IS 5:1-7

PS 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 (The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel)

PHIL 4:6-9

MT 21:33-43

GOSPEL:

- Another vineyard parable. Landowner leases his vineyard to tenant farmers.
 - In this arrangement the farmers use the land and share of its fruits, but must render to the landowner a portion as the lease payment.
- He sends his servants to GET WHAT IS HIS - they are mistreated and killed
- He sends his son - they decide that they will kill him, and take possession of the vineyard.
 - Foolish plan - killing him does not entitle them to the inheritance, and the owner is just going to come and take what his his.
- Who is the son Jesus speaks of? Who is the vineyard being taken from? And given to who?
- Responsibilities of the tenant status (since the Garden of Eden we keep trying to take charge!)
- The ones who shall obtain the Kingdom of heaven are those who will produce fruit from the land.
 - What does that mean? How does one do that?

FIRST READING:

- The prophet's friend lovingly and carefully builds a vineyard. But it has yielded wild grapes and not those suitable. What is he trying to say?
- What more could he have done for the vineyard, he asks. Whose fault is the problem?
- So now he will remove the protection (the hedge) from the rebellious (wild) vineyard and leave it for grazing. He will not give the same care or allow the rain to fall.
- He says who this prophecy reflects at the end.
- How are we grateful for the helps and protections of the Lord? Do we grow into the type of fruit that is suitable or do we produce rebellious and "wild" grapes?
- What can be done to return to the good graces of the Lord? This is what God wants.

SECOND READING:

- Pray to God with thanksgiving. As you ask, be grateful for that hedge, the hoeing, the rain.
- There are so many negative things to think about. He advised to focus on those things that are honorable, pure, gracious, excellent, and worthy of praise.
- Reflecting on the good, and remembering what we have been taught - this is a pathway to peace.

—Closing Prayer