JESUS, THE CORNERSTONE

Mark 11:27–12:12

Key Verse: 12:10,11

1. Where is Jesus, who comes to him, what do they ask, and why? (27,28; cf. 11:15–17) What is the source of Jesus’ authority? (1:11; 9:7) John the Baptist’s? (29,30; cf. 1:2–4) Why did the religious leaders not accept this authority? (Mt3:7–9; 21:32) What does their response show about them, and why does Jesus not answer them? (31–33)

1. In Jesus’ parable, what does a man do, and what does his renting this place to some farmers show about him? (12:1) How is this an allegory of Israel? (Isa5:1–7) Of God’s entrusting this world to human beings? (Ge1:28; 2:15; cf. Ac14:16,17) At harvest time, what did the owner do, and how is this an allegory of our relationship with God? (2)
2. How do the tenant farmers respond to the owner? (3–5) How is this a description of Israel’s history? (Jer7:25; Ac7:51,52) Of all human beings’ response to God? (Ro1:18–21; 2:4) Why do we rebel against God?
3. What does the owner do as a last resort, and what does this show about him? (6; cf. Eze18:23; Jn3:16; 1Co13:4–7) What do the tenants do, and why? (7,8) How will the owner respond? (9) What warning is Jesus giving?
4. Read verses 10,11. How would Jesus be “the stone the builders rejected”? (15:27–32) What is a cornerstone? How would Jesus become “the cornerstone,” and what does it mean to us? (Ac4:11,12; Eph2:19–22) What does it mean that “the Lord has done this”?
5. How do the chief priests, teachers of the law and elders respond, and why? (12) In light of this passage, why might we reject Jesus? Look again at verses 10,11. How can we accept Jesus as our cornerstone? (1Pe2:4–10)