



Series Final Week

Passage Matthew 21:1-46, 22:1-15

Title The Church Epoch

Speaker: Dave Menard 03/26/2017

Discussion Starter: What are some of the new things that you learned from the sermon this past Sunday that you did not previously know about the Church Epoch?

The Cursed Fig Tree (Matthew 21:18-22; Luke 13:6-9)

- We learned that the fig tree represented the nation of Israel. Jesus expected to see the spiritual fruit from this nation and there was none to be found. Do you think Jesus is hungry for fruit in our lives? What are some areas of your life that are bearing fruit? What areas would you like Jesus to help you to bear more fruit?
- What were some of the ways Israel misrepresented God and what are some of the ways you see the church or its members misrepresenting God today?

The Parable of the Two Sons (Matthew 21:28-32; Matthew 15:8; Romans 10:21)

- We see that the father had two sons the first son says he will not work in the vineyard and the other says he will. We learned that the unwilling son actually later goes out into the vineyard and works the field but the son who said yes did not. What do you think made the first son willingly obedient as he went to work in the field and what does this represent spiritually?
- The second son that says yes is only giving the father lip service. What does this spiritually represent?
- What are some of the things that you have said yes to the LORD that you did not follow through on? Why is it more dangerous to say yes with your mouth when your heart says no?

The Parable of the Wicked Farmers (Matthew 21:33-46; Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalms 118:22-24)

- In this story the wicked farmers are another picture of the nation Israel. What items are on the list of things that God provides for Israel and what do each of these represent spiritually?
- What are some of the lessons we can learn from this parable about being good stewards of the things God has given us?
- Explain in your own words the meaning in Matthew 21:44. What is the spiritual difference between being broken on the stone versus being ground into powder?

The Parable of the Wedding Feast (Matthew 22:1-15; Romans 11:1-2, 25-27; Zechariah 12:10)

- The invited guests to the wedding is the nation of Israel. They did not want to come and therefore became unworthy to attend. Then God sends out the invitation to the Gentiles both good and bad and they are all gathered into the wedding hall but one of the guests invited does not have on the wedding garment. Explain what this garment represents and who the guest represents who did not have this garment on? How does this apply to us today as Christians?
- What are some of the things we learn about the grace of God and His heart to restore Israel once again into service? Is there anyone in your life you have given up on that you can begin again to pray for?