



# THE OWNER OF THE VINEYARD

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# MORNING READING

## The LORD Exalted for His Goodness.

Psalm 145:1-14

**A Psalm of Praise, of David.**

**1** I will exalt You, my God, the King,  
And I will bless Your name forever and  
ever. **2** Every day I will bless You, And I will  
praise Your name forever and ever **3** Great  
is the LORD, and highly to be praised; And  
His greatness is unsearchable.

**4** One generation will praise Your works to another, And will declare Your mighty acts. **5** On the glorious [a]splendor of Your majesty And on Your wonderful works, I will meditate. **6** People will speak of the [b]power of Your awesome acts, And I will tell of Your greatness. **7** They will burst forth [c]in speaking of Your abundant goodness, And will shout joyfully of Your righteousness.

**8** The LORD is gracious and compassionate  
Slow to anger and great in mercy.

**9** The LORD is good to all, And His mercies  
are over all His works.

**10** All Your works will give thanks to You,  
LORD, And Your godly ones will bless You.

**11** They will speak of the glory of Your  
kingdom, And talk of Your might,

**12** To make known to the sons of mankind  
[d]Your mighty acts, And the glory of the  
majesty of [e]Your kingdom.

**13** Your kingdom is [f]an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

[g]The LORD is faithful in His words, And holy in all His works.

**14** The LORD supports all who fall, And raises up all who are bowed down.



# MAIN READING

## Mark 12:1-17

**1** Then He began to speak to them in parables: “A man planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a place for the wine vat and built a tower. And he leased it to [a]vinedressers and went into a far country. **2** Now at vintage-time he sent a servant to the vinedressers, that he might receive some of the fruit of the vineyard from the vinedressers.

**3** And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. **4** Again he sent them another servant, [b]and at him they threw stones, wounded him in the head, and sent him away shamefully treated. **5** And again he sent another, and him they killed; and many others, beating some and killing some. **6** Therefore still having one son, his beloved, he also sent him to them last, saying, 'They will respect my son.'

**7** But those [c]vinedressers said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'

**8** So they took him and killed him and cast him out of the vineyard. **9** Therefore what will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the vinedressers, and give the vineyard to others. **10** Have you not even read this Scripture: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.'



**11** This was the LORD's doing,  
And it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

**12** And they sought to lay hands on Him,  
but feared the multitude, for they knew  
He had spoken the parable against them.  
So they left Him and went away.

**The Pharisees: Is It Lawful to Pay Taxes to  
Caesar?**

**13** Then they sent to Him some of the  
Pharisees and the Herodians, to catch Him  
in His words.

**14** When they had come, they said to Him, “Teacher, we know that You are true, and [d]care about no one; for You do not [e]regard the person of men, but teach the way of God in truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? **15** Shall we pay, or shall we not pay?” But He, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, “Why do you test Me? Bring Me a denarius that I may see it.”

**16** So they brought it.

And He said to them, “Whose image and inscription is this?” They said to Him, “Caesar’s.”

**17** And Jesus answered and said to them, [f]“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” And they marveled at Him.

Matthew 23:15 New International Version

<sup>15</sup> “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a child of hell as you are.

# Romans 3:4 New King James Version

<sup>4</sup> Certainly not! Indeed, let God be [\[a\]](#)true  
but every man a liar. As it is written:  
“That You may be justified in Your words,  
And may overcome when You are judged.”

## Mark 12:6-8 New Living Translation

<sup>6</sup> until there was only one left—his son whom he loved dearly. The owner finally sent him, thinking, ‘Surely they will respect my son.’ <sup>7</sup> “But the tenant farmers said to one another, ‘Here comes the heir to this estate. Let’s kill him and get the estate for ourselves!’ <sup>8</sup> So they grabbed him and murdered him and threw his body out of the vineyard.



## Acts 4:11-12 New King James Version

<sup>11</sup> This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.' <sup>12</sup> Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

# Mark 12:11-12 New Living Translation

<sup>11</sup> This is the LORD's doing,  
and it is wonderful to see.'<sup>[a]</sup>”

<sup>12</sup> The religious leaders<sup>[b]</sup> wanted to arrest Jesus because they realized he was telling the story against them—they were the wicked farmers. But they were afraid of the crowd, so they left him and went away.

**Thank you LORD  
for the reading of your  
Holy Word.**

A vibrant photograph of a vineyard. In the foreground, a rustic wooden sign is mounted on a post. The sign has two horizontal planks; the top plank is blank, and the bottom plank features the text 'THE OWNER OF THE VINEYARD' in bold, white, sans-serif capital letters. To the left of the sign, several large, dark blue bunches of grapes hang from a vine with green leaves. The background shows a well-maintained vineyard with rows of grapevines stretching into the distance under bright, sunny conditions. The overall scene is lush and green, with a warm, golden light.

# **THE OWNER OF THE VINEYARD**