



What?! No way! A change of command???

B.L.U.F. (Bottom Line Up Front): *What you do with Jesus will leave you robust or pulverized into powder.*

A bit of history and geography...

Palm Sunday – the Day of Demonstration

Monday – the Day of Authority

Tuesday – the Day of Conflict...with a surprising *change of command*.

What are we to understand from Jesus' story?

1. Clarity Through a Story

- Certain Man = God
- Vineyard = Israel's stewardship of God's truth and world evangelism.
- Husbandman (farmer who tended the vineyard) = Israel's spiritual leaders – priests, Pharisees, lawyers, Sanhedrin, etc.
- Long Time (v. 9b) = OT history
- Servants (v. 10-12) = OT prophets
- Treatment of the Servants = Israel's religious leaders rejection and persecution of the prophets God sent. Matthew 23:33-36
- Son (v. 13) = Jesus
- Kill the Son (v. 14-15a) = Jesus' crucifixion
- Destroy husbandman & give vineyard to others (v. 15b-16a) = take away from Israel's spiritual leaders the responsibility to manage God's work on earth and give it to the followers of Jesus.

v. 16b – “God forbid! No way!”

Gradual transition to *Change of Command*:

- 12 followers receive power/authority Luke 9
- 70 more added Luke 10
- Mysteries revealed to them Matthew 13
- Further mysteries & keys given Mat 16

Change of Command is Temporary

- Romans 11
- Revelation 7
- Zechariah 8

Biblical Illiteracy of the “so-called” educated religious leaders

v. 17-18 – “You don’t know your Bible!”

What is a cornerstone?
Why is a cornerstone important?

Psalms 118:22-23

Acts 4:10-12

Jesus as “cornerstone” appears in Psalms, Isaiah, 3 Gospels, Acts, 1st Peter and Ephesians.

Ancient Rabbinic Saying – “If a stone falls on a pot it will smash the pot; if a pot falls on a stone it will smash the pot. Either way the pot is smashed because the stone will not be broken.”

2. **Take-a-Ways Worth Pondering**

1) Be Careful Who You Listen To

Matthew 15:14 “...they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.”

2) Be Careful How You Relate To Jesus

Israel’s religious leaders were not given the opportunity to pick and choose what about Jesus they liked. Believe Him or reject Him...but consider the consequences.



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Jesus is a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense.