

The grapes were thrown into upper part and trodden by men (Judges ix. 27, Neh. xiii. 15, Is. lxiii. 3), and the juice thus pressed out ran through a grated hole into lower vessel, called wine-vat wh. usually dug underground. "Tower" for watching against incursions of wild beasts or robbers.

These details mean that God provided everything needed for advancement and protection of religion in His Church.

"Let it out." Gave to care of spiritual chiefs, who were given authority to sit in Moses' seat and teach people (Mal. ii. 7, Ezek. xxxiv. 2, S. Matt. xxiii. 2, 3).

"Went into a far country." At first God gave them constant visible tokens of His presence (e.g. Plagues of Egypt, Sinai), then He left them to themselves, and the ordinances that He had appointed.

v. 34. "Servants." Special faithful messengers, "whether kings, as Hezekiah; or governors, as Nehemiah; or priests, as Jehoiada, or Joshua, son of Josedek; or particular prophets as Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Haggai, and Zechariah."

v. 35. See Jer. xxxvii. 38, 1 K. xviii. 13, xxii. 24-27, 2 K. vi 31, 2 Chron. xxiv. 19-22, xxxvii. 15, 16, and Heb. xi. 37, 38.

v. 36. "More." They were more numerous in latter days than former.

v. 37. "His son." The prophets were "sons of God" in highest sense that men cd. be. This therefore indicates Catholic Doctrine of Trinity. Jesus was His Son in a far higher sense. His "own son," "His only begotten." "They will," &c. Of course God speaks here after manner of men. He knew

what they wd. do. "Last and crowning effort of Divine mercy."

v. 38. cf. John xi. 47-53, and Gen. xxxvii. 19, 20. Christ is "heir of all things" (Heb. i. 2) as He is the Son of Man (Eph. i. 20-23)

What God had founded, they wd. fain possess without God, and against God, and selfishly as their sole possession.

v. 39. "Cast him out." "So Christ suffered without the gate," Heb. xiii. 12, 13, John xix. 17.

v. 41. "They say." They, in this answer, utter their own doom. The people said (Luke xx. 16) "God forbid," How wonderfully has it been fulfilled. Privileges of Jews forfeited for their rejection of Christ. It had been foretold (Ps. cxviii. 22, 23). What was the sin of the Jews which caused them to be rejected and the Gentiles put into their place? Refused to listen to God's Messengers. The Ministers and Stewards of His mysteries are now preparing the way for His Second Coming. Are we prepared to meet Him? What have we to place this Christmas beside His cradle as token of our love?

Each has his gift,

Our minds are organ pipes of diverse stop
And various pitch; each with his proper

Thrilling ^{notes} beneath the self-same breath of
God.

Though poor alone, yet, joined, they're
harmony. — *C. Kingsley.*

The following notice appears in a shop window in Paris: "If you will pictures have after photographs you can yourself for five francs taken have, and your wife for three francs painted have with oils all over."