

children. Tell that the building of the wine-press shows the Lord's desire to help his people in bringing forth good fruit. Make a tower in the square, and teach that this shows how God thinks of the safety of his people. A watchman stood upon the tower to see that nothing came to destroy the fruit.

All this was put in the care of servants. God gives us the Church, the Bible, the Sabbath—all his gifts—and tells us to bring forth fruit for him. Tell how the servants thought this was their own, and refused to give the fruit to God who owned it. Tell how they treated his messengers, even his Son, Jesus! They said, "We will kill the son, and then all will be ours." What will God do with such unfaithful servants?



Jews did. How wicked this is!

*Our vineyard.* Little hearts are God's vineyards. How much God gives to each child! What are you doing with his gifts? If we are not trying to obey Jesus and bear the fruit of good lives, then we are rejecting Jesus, turning him out of his vineyard, wanting to kill him as the

### Berean Methods. The Teachers' Meeting.

When, where, by whom, to whom, and for what purpose the parable was delivered....The vineyard: 1) What it meant to the Jews; 2) What it means to us, ....The husbandmen—their conduct, motives, etc....Wherein are sinners of the present like them....The Lord of the vineyard: 1) His grace; 2) His long-suffering; 3) His tender interest; 4) His self-denying love; 5) His final wrath....The messengers—who were they? Who are such now?...The sins of man: 1) Selfishness; 2) Ingratitude; 3) Hatred against God; 4) Depravity; 5) Impenitence....The principles of the divine dealing with men....Application: 1) What is our vineyard? 2) How are we using it? 3) How do sinners show this spirit? 4) How may Christ become "the head of the corner" to us?...Aspects of Christ in the lesson: 1) Son of God; 2) Sent to men; 3) Slain by men; 4) Lifted up as head....Illustrations: Wrong to an ambassador is wrong to his king. When the Roman ambassador addressed the people of Tarentum, they ridiculed his imperfect Greek, and threw mud on his robe. Holding up the garment, he said, "It will take much blood to wash away that stain." As a result their city was besieged and taken captive, many were slain, and the Tarentines became the subjects of Rome....The rejected stone. A king desired a fine mosaic picture. The master-artist divided the stones from which it was to be constructed among his workmen, giving to each his own design. One artist considered his fragment too small to notice, and threw away the stone intrusted to him, saying, "It is of no worth." When all the work was brought together, his stone was found to be most important of all, the very centerpiece. He lost his place, and was branded upon the forehead with the words, "Of no worth," as a penalty for his neglect.

**References.** FREEMAN. Ver. 1: Vineyards, fences, wine-presses, and towers. 690....FOSTER'S CYCLOPEDIA. Prose, 715. Poetical, 3515, 4085, 3513-3515. Prose, 5941, 7170, 10716, 10780. Ver. 2: Prose, 10217. Ver. 3: Prose, 11442. Ver. 8: Prose, 7109, 12109-12111. Ver. 9: Poetical, 2918; Prose, 10832, 10834; Poetical, 3456.

### ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

#### God's Grace and Man's Sin.

- I. THE GRACE OF GOD.
  1. **Privilege.** "Planted a vineyard." v. 1.  
"Vineyard of the Lord....house of Israel." Isa. 5, 7.
  2. **Mercy.** "Sent....many others." v. 5.  
"Long-suffering to us-ward." 2 Pet. 3, 9.
  3. **Salvation.** "One Son....sent him." v. 6.  
"Gave his only-begotten Son." John 3, 16.
- II. THE SIN OF MAN.
  1. **Disloyalty.** "Sent him away empty." v. 4.  
"Ye have not hearkened." Jer. 25, 4.
  2. **Rebellion.** "Beating some....killing some." v. 5.  
"Prophets....your fathers persecuted." Acts 7, 52.
  3. **Rejection.** "Took him....killed him." v. 8.  
"Ye have taken....crucified....slain." Acts 2, 23.
- III. THE PENALTY OF SIN.
  1. **Loss.** "Vineyard unto others." v. 9.  
"Salvation....until the Gentiles." Rom. 11, 11.
  2. **Destruction.** "Destroy the husbandmen." v. 9.  
"Fall by the edge of the sword." Luke 21, 24.

### THOUGHTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

#### God's Dealings with Man.

1. God gives to men privileges of salvation and opportunities of influence (the vineyard). v. 1.
2. God surrounds men with the wholesome restraints of his law and ordinances (the hedge). v. 1.
3. God endows men with the kingdom of grace, and makes them stewards of his mercies ("let it out"). v. 1.
4. God leaves men to themselves, in order that individual character may be developed and shown. v. 1.
5. God keeps in relation with men through his messengers of the word, the ministry, and the Spirit. v. 2.
6. God is long-suffering and patient in his dealings with men, giving them every influence to induce repentance and righteousness. vs. 2-5.
7. God makes his crowning endeavor to save men by sending to them his Son. v. 6.
8. God will finally and utterly destroy those who persistently reject his grace. v. 9.

### HOME READINGS.

- M. The rejected Son. Mark 12, 1-12.  
Th. The unprofitable vineyard. Isa. 5, 1-7.  
W. The rejected stone. Matt. 21, 42-46.  
Th. God's message rejected. Jer. 23, 1-11.  
F. Gospel rejected by Jews. Acts 13, 38-48.  
S. The unprofitable servant. Matt. 25, 14-23.  
S. The unfaithful servant. Matt. 25, 24-30.

### GOLDEN TEXT.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not. John 1, 11.

### LESSON HYMNS.

- No. 58, Dominion Hymnal.  
Come, every soul by sin oppressed,  
There's mercy with the Lord.
- No. 64, Dominion Hymnal.  
Jesus, Saviour, to thy side,  
From the avenger I would flee.
- No. 79, Dominion Hymnal.  
Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that thy blood was shed for me.

TIME.—30 A. D.

PLACE.—Jerusalem.

RULERS. Same as in previous lesson.

DOCTRINAL SUGGESTION.—The patience of God.