

Luke 20:1-19

One day as He was teaching the people in the temple and proclaiming the good news, the chief priests and the scribes, with the elders, came 2 and said to Him, "Tell us, by what authority are You doing these things? Who is it who gave You this authority?" 3 He answered them, "**I will also ask you a question. Tell Me, 4 was the baptism of John from heaven or of human origin?**" 5 They discussed it among themselves: "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Why didn't you believe him?' 6 But if we say, 'Of human origin,' all the people will stone us, because they are convinced that John was a prophet." 7 So they answered that they did not know its origin. 8 And Jesus said to them, "**Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.**"

9 Now He began to tell the people this parable: "**A man planted a vineyard, leased it to tenant farmers, and went away for a long time. 10 At harvest time he sent a servant to the farmers so that they might give him some fruit from the vineyard. But the farmers beat him and sent him away empty-handed. 11 He sent yet another servant, but they beat that one too, treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. 12 And he sent yet a third, but they wounded this one too and threw him out. 13 "Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What should I do? I will send my beloved son. Perhaps they will respect him.'**" 14 "**But when the tenant farmers saw him, they discussed it among themselves and said, 'This is the heir. Let's kill him, so that the inheritance will be ours.'**" 15 So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "**What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? 16 He will come and kill those farmers and give the vineyard to others.**"

But when they heard this they said, "That must never happen!" 17 But He looked at them and said, "Then what is the meaning of this Scripture:

**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone?**

18 **Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but on whomever it falls, it will shatter him.**"

19 Then the scribes and the chief priests looked for a way to get their hands on Him that very hour, because they knew He had told this parable against them, but they feared the people.