

# A Priest and a Rabbi Walk into a Classroom

March 12, 2023



## Matthew 21:28-32

‘What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.”<sup>29</sup> He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went.<sup>30</sup> The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go.<sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.<sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

## Matthew 21:33-46

‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country.<sup>34</sup> When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce.<sup>35</sup> But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.<sup>36</sup> Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way.<sup>37</sup> Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.”<sup>38</sup> But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.”<sup>39</sup> So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.<sup>40</sup> Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’<sup>41</sup> They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”?’<sup>43</sup> Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.<sup>44</sup> The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’<sup>45</sup> When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them.<sup>46</sup> They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.