

Mark 12:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And at the season he sent to the husbandmen a servant, that he might receive from the husbandmen of the fruit of the vineyard.

Analysis

At the season he sent to the husbandmen a servant—The *kairos* (καιρός, appointed time) represents God's rightful expectation of covenant fruit. **A servant** (δοῦλος, *doulos*) represents the prophets sent to Israel demanding covenant faithfulness. **That he might receive from the husbandmen of the fruit**—not taking what wasn't theirs, but collecting what was owed from God's vineyard.

God's sending servants 'at the season' reveals His patience and legitimate expectation. The harvest season is accountability time—when stewards must render what belongs to the Master. Israel's history is marked by prophets demanding the 'fruit' of justice, mercy, and faithfulness (Micah 6:8), only to face rejection.

Historical Context

The sending of servants at harvest time reflects the legal and economic realities of tenant farming in the ancient Near East. More importantly, it symbolizes the succession of Old Testament prophets—Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and others—who called Israel to repentance and covenant loyalty, often suffering persecution for their faithfulness (Hebrews 11:32-38).

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's patient sending of multiple messengers demonstrate both His longsuffering and His just requirement of fruit?
2. What 'fruit' does God rightfully expect from your life as a steward of gospel privileges?
3. How do you respond when God's word confronts your unfaithfulness—with repentance or resistance?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἀπέστειλεν	πρὸς	τοὺς	γεωργῶν	τῷ	καιρῷ
And G2532	he sent G649	to G4314	G3588	the husbandmen G1092	G3588	at the season G2540
δοῦλον	ἵνα	παρὰ	τῶν	γεωργῶν	λάβῃ	ἀπὸ τοῦ
a servant G1401	that G2443	from G3844	G3588	the husbandmen G1092	he might receive G2983	of G575 G3588
καρποῦ	τοῦ	ἀμπελῶνος·				
the fruit G2590	G3588	of the vineyard G290				