

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 (καῖρος, 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 he sent to the husbandmen at the season
G2532 G649 G3588 G1092 G3588 G2540

δοῦλον ἵνα παρὰ τῷν γεωργῶν λάβῃ ἀπὸ τοῦ
a servant that from the husbandmen he might receive of G3588
G1401 G2443 G3844 G1092 G2983 G575 G3588

καρποῦ τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος
the fruit of the vineyard
G2590 G3588 G290

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