

# Mark 12:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And again he sent another; and him they killed, and many others; beating some, and killing some.

## Analysis

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**Again he sent another; and him they killed**—Escalation reaches murder (ἀποκτείνω, *apokteinō*). **And many others; beating some, and killing some**—a summary statement compressing centuries of prophetic martyrdom into one devastating sentence. The plurality reveals God's relentless pursuit of His people through successive generations of prophets, and Israel's persistent violence against them.

The 'many others' indicts the entire prophetic tradition from Abel to Zechariah (Matthew 23:35). This verse is the hinge: it establishes the pattern (rejection-violence-murder) that will climax in verses 6-8 with the beloved son. The tenants' escalating violence proves they won't be reformed—only judgment remains.

## Historical Context

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Israel's history is stained with prophetic blood: tradition holds that Isaiah was martyred under King Manasseh, Jeremiah was killed by fellow Jews in Egypt, Zechariah son of Jehoiada was murdered in the temple (2 Chronicles 24:20-22). Jesus later pronounced judgment: 'Upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth' (Matthew 23:35), confirming this parabolic indictment as historical reality.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does the progression from beating to killing demonstrate that persistent rejection of truth leads to hardened violence against it?
2. What does God's sending 'many others' reveal about His patient determination to call rebellious people to account?
3. How do you guard against the religious complacency that killed the prophets while claiming to honor them?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	πάλιν	ἄλλους	ἀπέστειλεν·	κάκεϊνον	ἀποκτείνοντες
<b>And</b>	<b>again</b>	<b>another</b>	<b>he sent</b>	<b>and him</b>	<b>killing some</b>
G2532	G3825	G243	G649	G2548	G615

καὶ	πολλοὺς	ἄλλους	τοὺς	μὲν	δέροντες	τοὺς	δὲ
<b>And</b>	<b>many</b>	<b>another</b>	G3588	G3303	<b>beating some</b>	G3588	<b>and</b>
G2532	G4183	G243			G1194		G1161

ἀποκτείνοντες
<b>killing some</b>
G615