

Matthew 21:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.

Analysis

This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

Historical Context

This verse originates in Jesus' ministry during a pivotal period. The first-century Jewish context included Roman occupation, Pharisaic religious authority, and messianic expectations. Understanding these factors illuminates the passage's significance.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What does this text reveal about human nature and God's grace?
2. How can you apply this teaching to current struggles or questions?
3. What changes in thinking or behavior does this passage require?

Interlinear Text

Tí δὲ ὑμῖν δοκεῖ ἄνθρωπος εἶχεν Τέκνον δύο καὶ
what But ye think A certain man had Son two and
G5101 G1161 G5213 G1380 G444 G2192 G5043 G1417 G2532

προσελθὼν τῷ πρώτῳ εἶπεν Τέκνον ὥπαγε σήμερον
he came to the first and said Son go to day
G4334 G3588 G4413 G2036 G5043 G5217 G4594

ἔργάζου ἐν τῷ ἀμπελῶνι μου
work in vineyard my
G2038 G1722 G3588 G290 G3450

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 15:58 (Parallel theme): Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 10:15 (Parallel theme): I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

Matthew 20:1 (Parallel theme): For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

Mark 13:34 (Parallel theme): For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

Matthew 21:33 (Parallel theme): Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country:

Luke 13:4 (Parallel theme): Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

