

Matthew 21:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.

Analysis

This text illustrates key Reformed principles: *sola Scriptura*, *sola gratia*, and *sola fide*. The passage demonstrates how God's Word speaks authoritatively to human need, revealing both our depravity and God's merciful provision through Christ.

Historical Context

First-century Palestine was marked by religious fervor and political tension. The passage reflects interactions between Jesus and various groups: Pharisees, Sadducees, disciples, and crowds. Each audience received teaching tailored to their needs and spiritual condition.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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

οἱ δὲ γεωργοὶ ἴδόντες τὸν γίὸν εἶπον ἐν
G3588 **But** **when the husbandmen** **saw** **the son** **they said** **among**
G1161 G1092 G1492 G5207 G2036 G1722

ἐαυτοῖς Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ κληρονόμος· δεῦτε
themselves **This** **is** **the heir** **come**
G1438 G3778 G2076 G2818 G1205

ἀποκτείνωμεν αὐτοῦ καὶ κατάσχωμεν τὴν κληρονομίαν
let us kill **him** **and** **let us seize** **inheritance**
G615 G846 G2532 G2722 G2817

αὐτοῦ
him
G846

Additional Cross-References

Luke 20:14 (Parallel theme): But when the husbandmen saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, This is the heir: come, let us kill him, that the inheritance may be our's.

Hebrews 1:2 (Parallel theme): Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

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