

# 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

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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

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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

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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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

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οἱ	δὲ	γεωργοὶ	ἰδόντες	τὸν	υἱὸν	εἶπον	ἐν
G3588	<b>But</b>	<b>when the husbandmen</b>	<b>saw</b>	G3588	<b>the son</b>	<b>they said</b>	<b>among</b>
G1161		G1092	G1492		G5207	G2036	G1722
ἐαυτοῖς	Οὗτός	ἐστιν	ὁ	κληρονόμος·	δεῦτε		
<b>themselves</b>	<b>This</b>	<b>is</b>	G3588	<b>the heir</b>	<b>come</b>		
G1438	G3778	G2076		G2818	G1205		
ἀποκτείνωμεν	αὐτοῦ	καὶ	κατάσχωμεν	τὴν	κληρονομίαν		
<b>let us kill</b>	<b>him</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>let us seize</b>	G3588	<b>inheritance</b>		
G615	G846	G2532	G2722		G2817		
αὐτοῦ							
<b>him</b>							
G846							

## Additional Cross-References

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**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;