

Commentary on the Gospel for Mon, Jun 4th 2012

Jesus once identified himself as the true vine (Jn 15:1ff); he was the best of Israel, God's beloved. But in this parable he is identified not as the vine but as the son and heir to the vineyard. Mark says, "They killed him and threw him out of the vineyard" (v. 8). But Matthew reverses the order: "they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him" (21:39). Likewise Luke (20:15). They must have been thinking with hindsight about the way Jesus actually died. He was led out of Jerusalem and killed outside the city, not killed inside and then thrown out. How they see Jesus in every detail and every detail in Jesus!

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