

## On Lease

By, Lanfer Simpson

**Matthew 21:41 - They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."**

There is a song recorded by Gene Watson, "You Can't Take it with You When You Go". The basis of this song is that everything we acquire in this world is bound to be retained in this world. Nothing is worth a single dime.

Everything that we "own" in this life is basically on lease. We are stewards over it for a brief existence and then it is entrusted to someone else. We may leave it to our children, sometimes the wear of time destroys it, sometimes it is reallocated to another "owner". However, in all instances it does not belong to us indefinitely.

When we come to this realization, our lives spent on acquiring materials comes into focus and we must evaluate if we have been good stewards over with what we have been entrusted.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells a parable of wicked tenants. In this parable, these tenants forgot that everything they were in charge of managing was owned by someone else. When they tried to take it by force, they are dealt with most severely.

The same is true for everything we "own". It really belongs to Jesus the King. We are merely stewards with these resources for a brief period of time. How will we be dealt with? Will we be rewarded with enhancing the kingdom with the resources Christ gave us? Or will be thrown into the depths because of our inability to produce good fruit for Him?

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, redeemer and provider of life, thank you for entrusting us with so much. Continue to use us in ways that serve the kingdom. Allow this world to be transformed in your name. Amen.