

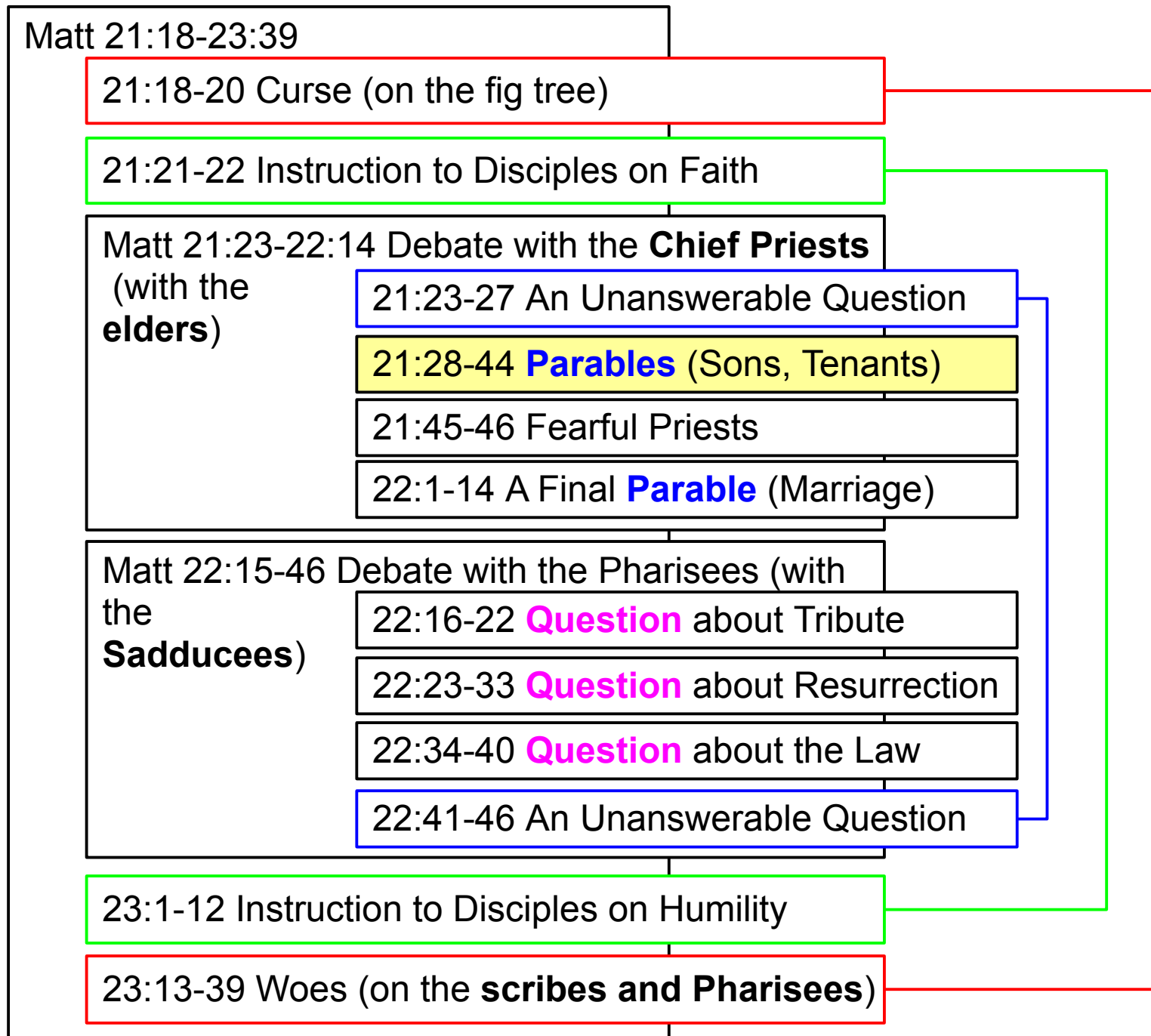
Treasure Hunt

- Give some examples of the progression across the three parables.
- What OT story might the Lord have in mind in the parable of the two sons?
- How does the parable of the two sons reflect the fig tree?
- What is “the way of righteousness” and why is it important?
- What is the OT source for the parable of the wicked tenants?
- Who destroys the vineyard in Isaiah?
- How does Ezekiel extend the warning about destroyers?
- Whom did the chief priests think the Lord was comparing to the wicked tenants?

Structure of 20:17-25:45

		Genre	
		Narrative	Exposition
Participants	Disciples	20:17-34 Final Ascent	Ch. 24-25 Olivet Discourse
	Jewish Leaders	21:1-17 Triumphal Entry Cleansing the Temple	21:18-23:39 Great Debate

The Great Debate



Comparing the Three Parables

	Two sons	Wicked Tenants	Wedding Feast
Overall Characteristics			
Characters in tension	Father, good son, bad son	Householder, husbandmen, servants, son	King, son, stubborn guests, later guests, ill-dressed guest
Scripture?	Isaac, Jacob, Esau	Isa 5, Psa 118	Prov 9; Isa 25:6; Zeph 1:7-8
Consequence	Others before you	Destroyed	Destroyed, city burned
Ref to kingdom	Kdom of God: pubs & harlots go before you	Kdom of God: given to another nation	Kdom of Heaven: the whole feast.
Focus	John	Jesus rejected	Jesus glorified
Correspondences			
God	Father	Householder	King
Prophets		Servants	Servants
Jewish leaders	Bad son	Husbandmen	Them that were bidden
Gentiles		Other husbandmen	
Common people	Good son		Travelers in the highways
Jesus & his fate		Son: killed	Son: marriage

An OT Background for the Two Sons?

Isaac desired children:

Gen 25:21 And Isaac intreated the LORD for his wife, because she *was* barren: and the LORD was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

One son appeared to please him:

Gen 25:28 And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of *his* venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob.

But in the end...

Gen 26:34 And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite: 35 Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah.

Background

Household vineyards:

1 Ki 4:25 And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under **his vine** and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.

The “way of righteousness”: 7x in Proverbs

Pro 16:31 The hoary head *is* a crown of glory, *if* it be found in **the way of righteousness.**

The Lord knows their thoughts:

Mat 21:25 And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, **Why did ye not then believe him?**

OT Background for the Tenants

Isa 5:1 Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a **song** of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: 2 And he **fenced** it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and **planted it with the choicest vine**, and built a **tower** in the midst of it, and also **made a winepress** therein:

Matt 21:33 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**

What happens in Isaiah?

Isa 5:5 And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be **eaten up**; *and* break down the wall thereof, and it shall be **trodden down**:

Who eats and treads down the vineyard? Assyrians ...

Isa 10:6 I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the **prey**, and to **tread them down** like the mire of the streets. (cf. 28:18)

...but also the rulers!

Eze 34:2 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe *be* to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks? 3 Ye **eat** the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: *but* ye feed not the flock. ... 19 And *as for* my flock, they eat that which ye have **trodden** with your feet; and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet.

“His servants”

“My/his servants the prophets” 17x

Examples of Jewish leaders rejecting the prophets:

- Jezebel and the prophets of the Lord (1 Kings 18)
- Ahab and Micaiah (1 Kings 22)
- Joash and Zechariah (2 Chr 24:20-22)
- Jehoiakim and Jeremiah (Jer 26:21)

Nehemiah’s summary after the exile:

Neh 9:26 Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled against thee, and cast thy law behind their backs, and **slew thy prophets** which testified against them to turn them to thee, and they wrought great provocations.