1. Opening Prayer

2. Intro: Does God change His mind?

To change (*nacham*): to be sorry, console oneself, repent, regret, have compassion

> When this verb is used with God as the subject,
> it means changes of the present and the future.
> Not just about God's emotion but God's action between judgment and salvation.

   a. God does not change His mind
      Numbers 23:19, 1 Samuel 15:29

   b. God changes His mind
      Genesis 6:6, Exodus 32:12-14, 1 Samuel 15:11 and 35, 1 Samuel 24:16,
      Jeremiah 15:6, 18:8-10, 26:3, 13, 19, 42:10, and Amos 7:3-6

How shall we understand those contradictory verses above?

   a. Israel's Theology: Joel 2:13-14, Jonah 4:2

   b. For the purpose of salvation or recreation: Genesis 6:5, 1 Samuel 15

   c. God's sovereign freedom without being affected by humans and their events

Philo: That God changes His mind is blasphemy.

Augustine: God cannot change. God cannot have emotions. Nothing affects God.
      God's will has been determined from eternity past.

Joachim Jeremias: God's emotional will and God's self-control not to do it again
      (ex. The Great Flood, and Saul's dynasty).

Terence Fretheim: God regrets based on God's unchanging and unconditional love.
      (especially, according with people's repentance)

R. W. L. Moberly: God regrets in relationships between God and humans.

3. Read Ch. 12

4. Discussion
    a. How would people understand the parable of the wicked tenants?

    b. What would Jesus teach about in this parable?

    c. How shall we understand verse 10?

    d. What was the relationship between the Pharisees and the Herodians?

    e. Can the answer of Jesus to the Pharisees and Herodians give us any lesson these days?

    f. Who were the Sadducees?

    g. What's the problem with the Sadducees in verses 18-27?

    h. What does Jesus mean by "you are not far from the kingdom of God" in verse 34?

    i. This chapter is about the tension between Jesus and other religious leaders. What would the tensions be today if Jesus were here?

5. Closing Prayer