

The Laborers in the Vineyard

Matthew 20:1-16

1. Relate the story of the parable in 25 words or less.
2. What question by Peter occasioned Jesus to relate the parable?
3. What is a householder?
4. What time of day would be “early in the morning”?
5. What is a vineyard?
6. What were the laborers in the vineyard to be paid?

7. If “early in the morning” meant 6:00 o’clock or the first hour, what time would be the third, the sixth, and the ninth?

8. When and how much were the laborers paid?

9. Who is represented by the householder?

10. Who is the steward who pays at end of day?

11. What is represented by the vineyard?

12. Who are those represented by the laborers in the vineyard?

13. What does the penny represent?

14. Why weren't the first ones, who "bore the burden and heat of the day" paid more?

15. What does the evening represent?

16. Who are represented by those who are hired last without any agreement?

17. What feature of the householder is pictured by his generosity to those hired last?

18. What characteristic is seen in the complainers who consider themselves worth more than the others?

19. What does the time-sequence in hiring represent?

20. What does the work in the vineyard represent?

21. Did the householder have an obligation to pay laborers who worked in another vineyard?

22. Did the householder reward those who simply stood idle or worked outside his vineyard?

23. Did the householder hire some to be idlers or bosses?

24. The parable addresses Jesus' statement in Matthew 19:30 and Matthew 20:16. What does it mean?