

Fair Enough?

Matthew 20:1-19

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**The only
fair thing in
this world
is being
unfair**

Ezekiel 18:25

**Yet ye say, The way of
the Lord is not equal.
Hear now, O house of
Israel; Is not my way
equal? are not your
ways unequal?**

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Deuteronomy 32:4
He is the Rock, his work
is perfect: for all his
ways are judgment: a
God of truth and
without iniquity, just
and right is he.

I. The Context

Matthew 19:30

But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

II. The Content (20:1-12)

A. The Call For Laborers (20:1-7)

Matthew 20:1-7

1 For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,

4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

II. The Content (20:1-12)

A. The Call For Laborers (20:1-7)

Matthew 20:1-7 - continued

5 Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.

6 And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

7 They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.

II. The Content (20:1-12)

A. The Call For Laborers (20:1-7)

- 1. The common references (v 1)**
- 2. The common task (v 2)**
- 3. The continuing task (v 3)**
- 4. The continuing need (v 4)**
- 5. The common condition (vv 3, 5-6)**
- 6. The cost required (vv 2, 4)**

II. The Content (20:1-12)

B. The Compensation Of The Laborers (20:8-10)

Matthew 20:8-10

8 So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.

9 And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.

10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny.

All treated the same

Romans 2:11

**For there is no respect
of persons with God.**

II. The Content (20:1-12)

C. The Complaint Of The First Laborers (20:11-12)

Matthew 20:11-12

11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,

12 Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.

But we don't want to be treated the same

III. The Concepts (20:13-16)

Matthew 20:13-16

13 But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?

14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.

15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

III. The Concepts (20:13-16)

A. Three truths about God (20:13-15)

- 1. One who stands by his promise (v 13)**
- 2. One who has power (v 14)**
- 3. One who does no wrong (v 15)**

B. Three truths for us (v 16)

- 1. Our reward is not determined by the amount of time or prominence of our position**
- 2. Our reward is determined by our faithfulness to the task God has given us**
- 3. All who believe in God's grace are one**

IV. The Consideration Of Christ's Cost

(20:17-19)

Matthew 20:17-19

17 And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them,

18 Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death,

19 And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again.

Fair Enough?

