

# The Parable of Workers in the Vineyard: God's Glorious Grace

## Mathew 20: 01-16

### 1. *God's grace provides work for people – a field to tend*

### 2. *God's grace seeks and calls people to work*

#### a. The early call:

To the willing and eager

#### 1) Shown grace:

Promised a full wage

#### 2) Sent into the field

#### b. The latecomer call:

To the idle, slothful,  
self-seeking, complacent

#### 1) They were shown grace:

The promise of a just wage

#### 2) Some responded

#### c. The persistent call:

To all - shows constant grace

#### d. The final call:

The eleventh hour call - to the idle

#### 1) He strongly rebuked them

#### 2) They excused themselves

#### 3) He showed grace:

Offered them work  
and the promise of a just wage  
at the end of the day

### 3. *God's grace pays the promised wages: At the appointed time, at the end of the day*

#### a. He instructed His foreman to pay them

#### b. He paid them out of a heart of care and grace

#### 1) Mercy was shown to the latecomers: A full wage

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard.

2 He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

3 About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing.

4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'

5 So they went. He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing.

6 About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

7 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

8 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'

9 The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius.

<p>2) Justice was shown to the eager workers: A full wage</p> <p>c. He did not base His pay on the workers' length of labour and energy: Illustrated by the eager workers who murmured over the same pay being given to all labourers</p> <p>1) His pay was gracious and just: A full wage as promised</p> <p>2) His pay was based on God's care for all: For the last as well as for the first</p> <p>d. He did not pay as man sees (with evil, selfish eyes): But as God wills - He is good</p> <p><b>4. <i>God's grace will execute justice and will pay exactly what He promised</i></b></p>	<p>10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.</p> <p>11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.</p> <p>12 'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'</p> <p>13 But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?'</p> <p>14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you.</p> <p>15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'</p> <p>16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'</p>
--	--