

God is Good! (Grumble, Grumble) **The Workers in the Vineyard - Matthew 20:1-16**

I. General Observations about the Parable

A. What the Parable is not about:

1. It is not directly about_____.
2. It is not directly about_____.

B. Topics it does touch on:

1. There is the issue of_____.
2. There is the presence of God's _____ .

C. Natural perception regarding the parable

1. Something is not right, it doesn't _____.
2. It doesn't really _____.

D. Noting the General Context

1. Context compared between the different accounts
2. Observations from the context:

II. The Setting for the Parable (Matt 19:27-30)

A. Peter's question following the rich young ruler conversation

B. Jesus' answer to Peter's question

1. Part One – for the disciples
2. Part Two – for many others
3. Part Three – a summary principle
4. Part Four – a parable of illustration

II. The Message of the Parable (20:1-16)

- A. The first laborers
- B. The third, sixth, and ninth hour laborers
- C. The eleventh hour laborers
- D. The payment of the workers
- E. The complaint of the first workers and the owner's answer
 - “you made them _____ to us”
 - “is your eye _____ because I am _____ ?”
- F. The concluding principle

III. Applications from the Parable

- A. Direct applications
 1. The disciples will soon realize they are the _____ of _____ to receive such honor and privilege.
 2. All of God's blessings are _____ so there is no reason to be _____.
 3. God's ways are not _____.
- B. Indirect applications
 1. As Christians, there is never any reason _____.
 2. Problems arise when you get occupied with a _____.
 3. Problems arise when you develop an _____ mentality.
 4. Grace is indeed _____ to our natural thinking.
 5. Beware the subtle tendency of relating all circumstances to being _____.