

Matthew 20:1-16

Equal Opportunity

1. For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.
2. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius 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 to them, You also go into the vineyard,
and whatever is right I will give you. So they went.
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 said to them,
Why have you been standing here idle all day?
7. They said to him, Because no one hired us.
He said to them, You also go into the vineyard,
and whatever is right you will receive.

8. So when evening had come the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.

9. And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius

10. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius

11. And when they had received it,

They complained against the landowner,

12. saying, These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us

who have borne the burden and heat of the day

13. But he answered one of them and said,
Friend, I am doing you no wrong.
Did you not agree with me for a denarius?

14. Take what is yours and go your way.
I wish to give to this last man the same as you.

15. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish
with my own things?

Or is your eye evil because I am good?

16. So the last will be first, and the first last.
For many are called but few chosen.

It's not fair!

BUT

It may be equitable.

Psalm 50: 9-15

9. I will not take a bull from your house, nor goats out of your folds.

10. For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.

11. I know all of the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are Mine.

12. If I were hungry I would not tell you; for the world is Mine and all its fullness.

13. Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

14. Offer to God thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.

15. Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

Isaiah 40: 25,26

25. To whom then will you liken Me,
Or to whom shall I be equal?
says the Holy One.

26..Lift up your eyes on high,
And see who has created these things.
Who brings out their host by number,
He calls them all by name,
by the greatness of His might and
The strength of His power;
Not one is missing.

2Peter 3:9

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise,
as some count slackness,
but is longsuffering
toward us,
not willing that any should perish
but that all should come to repentance.”