

Feb. 29 & March 1, 2020



## STORIES OF THE KING.

The Stories of The King: "That is not fair!"

### The Interview

Matthew 19:16 *Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"*

Matthew 19:21 *Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."*

### The Issue

Matthew 19:27 *Peter answered him, "We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?"*

Matthew 19:28 *Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. 30 But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first."*

### The Illustration

Matthew 20:1 *"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning (we will say 6 AM) 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 (from sunup, approx. 9AM) 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 (noon) and the ninth hour (3 PM) and did the same thing.*

*6 About the eleventh hour (5 PM) 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. 10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. 11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 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.'*

*13 "But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? 14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. 15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'*

*16 "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."*

## With Whom Do You Identify?

1. The landowner
2. A worker hired at the start of the day.
3. A worker hired at midday. (3, 6, 9 hours)
4. A worker hired at the end of the day.
5. The foreman

## What is the Story About?

The kingdom of heaven is like:

The landowner is God.

The vineyard is the world.

The first hires served God the longest.

The last hires served God the shortest.

The theme is *the renewal of all things*.

## The Point of the Parable

1. God is the King of heaven and earth.

Revelation 4:11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Psalm 100:1 *Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.*  
2 *Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.*

3 *Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.*

1 Corinthians 6:19 *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body*

2. God operates on grace, not merit.

Psalm 130:3 *If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? 4 But with you there is forgiveness; therefore, you are feared.*

3. Unfairness for Christ sake in this life will be rewarded beyond fairness in the next life.

Matthew 19:28 *Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. 30 But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.*