

## Jesus on Rewards (Matthew's Gospel)

### Opening comments

5:11-12 Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your **reward** is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Reward = (μισθός)

1 Paycheck - dues paid back for work

2 Fruit - that comes naturally from toils and endeavors

What does this verse teach about reward?

5:46 For if you love those who love you, what **reward** do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

What does this verse teach about reward?

6:1 - "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no **reward** from your Father who is in heaven.

6:2 "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their **reward**.

6:5 "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their **reward**

6:16 "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their **reward**.

What do this section teach about reward?

10:41- 42 The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's **reward**. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his **reward**."

What does this verse teach about reward?

20:8 And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their **wages**, beginning with the last, up to the first.'

Wages = (μισθός)

What does this verse teach about reward?

Acts 1:18 (Now this man acquired a field with the **reward** of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out.)

What does this verse teach about reward?

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NOTE: This section is trying to draw out a SLIGHT distinction in our verses for today (6:1-18). A different word for "reward" is used in the following verses.

6:4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will **reward** you.

Reward = (ἀποδίδωμι)

1 to pay off, discharge what is due

2 to give back what is owed

6:5 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will **reward** you.

6:18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will **reward** you.

Here are two other places in the sermon on the mount that this word is used.

5:26 Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have **paid** the last penny.

Paid = (ἀποδίδωμι)

1 to pay off, discharge what is due

2 to give back what is owed

5:33 "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but **shall perform** to the Lord what you have sworn.'

Shall perform = (ἀποδίδωμι)