

**Perean Ministry—Parable of the Generous Landowner (c. March 22–27, 33)**

Matthew 20:1–16

- 1 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.
- 2 When he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard.
- 3 And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the market place;
- 4 and to those he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ And so they went.
- 5 Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did the same thing.
- 6 And about the eleventh *hour* he went out and found others standing *around*; and he said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day long?’
- 7 They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’
- 8 “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last *group* to the first.’
- 9 When those *hired* about the eleventh hour came, each one received a denarius.
- 10 When those *hired* first came, they thought that they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.
- 11 When they received it, they grumbled at the landowner,
- 12 saying, ‘These last men have worked *only* one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the scorching heat of the day.’
- 13 But he answered and said to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’
- 14 Take what is yours and go, but I wish to give to this last man the same as to you.
- 15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with what is my own? Or is your eye envious because I am generous?’
- 16 So the last shall be first, and the first last.”

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