

Matthew 20:1-16

DFH Worship Translation

¹ For the kingdom of the heavens is similar to a man, a head of the household, who went out right at daybreak to hire workers into his vineyard;

² and after agreeing with the workers for a denarius [for] the day, he sent them into his vineyard.

³ And when he went out around [the] third hour, he saw others, who had been standing in the marketplace without work;

⁴ and he said to them, “You, too, go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is righteous.”

⁵ And they left, and again, when he went out around [the] sixth and [the] ninth hour, he did in the same way.

⁶ And around the eleventh [hour], when he went out, he found others, who had been standing, and he says to them, “Why have you been standing here the whole day without work?”

⁷ They say to him, “Because no one hired us.” He says to them, “You, too, go into the vineyard.”

⁸ But when it became evening, the lord of the vineyard says to his manager, “Call the workers and give out to them the wages, beginning from the last ones until the first.”

⁹ And the ones who came around the eleventh hour each received a denarius.

¹⁰ And, the first ones, when they came, got the idea that they would receive more, and they themselves each received a denarius also.

¹¹ And the ones who received were grumbling against the head of the household,

¹² saying, “These, the last ones, worked one hour, and you made them equal to us, who endured the burden of the day and the heat.”

¹³ But he answered and said to one of them, “Fellow, I am not being unrighteous to you; did you not agree with me for a denarius?”

¹⁴ Take that which is yours and go; but I wish to give to the last as also to you.

¹⁵ Or is it not permitted to me to do what I wish in the things of mine? Or is your eye evil because I am good?

¹⁶ In this way the last will be first and the first last.”

Copyright Donald F. Heath, Jr. 2020