

LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD

Matthew 20:1-16

INTRODUCTION:

In this parable **God** is the householder, **Believers** are the laborers, and the **Vineyard** is the world or the church. There is a great need for God's people to Work in the Vineyard to reach the Unsaved today and every day. Working for God is a privilege and great responsibility for every Christian Believer.

- I. **The Lord's Vineyard is Exceedingly Large** (vv. 1, 3, 5, 6)
 - A. **The Vineyard (Unsaved) is large – many laborers are needed.**
 - B. **The world is the Believer's Vineyard** (John 3:16; Matt 28:19; Acts 1:8)

- II. **Laborers are Urgently Needed in the Lord's Vineyard** (Matt 9:37; John 4:35)
 - A. **The need for laborers is greatly needed Now**
 - B. **Laborers are needed in other countries**
 - C. **Why the urgency for laborers in the vineyard?** (Isa 5:14; Matt 25:41; Rom 6:23; 2 Thess 1:9)
 - D. **In this parable, the period for working was twelve hours** (from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm).
 - o (John 4:35; John 9:4; 2 Cor 6:2; 1 Cor 7:29)

- III. **All Kinds of Laborers are Needed in the Lord's Vineyard**
 - A. Preachers of the Gospel – (Gal 1:6-9).
 - B. **Christian Authors and Teachers**
 - C. **Prayer Warriors**
 - D. **Soul-Winners**

- IV. **The Sphere of Laborers**
 - A. God calls and directs each laborer personally where and how to work (vv. 4, 7; Acts 8:29; Acts 9:11).
 - B. **The landowner went out at the eleventh hour** (vv. 6, 7)

- V. **The Dangers that Laborers Encounter in the Lord's Vineyard**
 - A. **Idleness** (vv. 3, 6; Gal 6:9; Jer 48:10)
 - B. **Jealousy** (v. 10)
 - C. **Murmuring** (v. 11) – **Criticism** (v. 15)

- VI. **The Reward of the Laborers**
 - A. **God requires faithfulness and obedience in our service to Him** (Matt 25:21; 1 Cor 4:2).
 - B. **"... the last shall be first and the first last ..."** (v. 16)

CONCLUSION:

- A. **Salvation is by Grace alone, through Faith alone, in Christ Jesus alone.**
- B. **Salvation is available to all regardless of the time**
- C. **ABC's of Salvation**

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"... the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa 40:8).