

PORTRAIT OF THE KING

“Equal Pay for ‘Unequal’ Service” (Matthew 19:30-20:16)

INTRODUCTION

- God is never unjust or unfair (Romans 2:9-11).
- This parable is an answer to Peter’s question in Matthew 19:27.

NOTES ON PARABLES

- What is a parable? Means “to place beside” or “to cast alongside.” When we place one thing alongside another, and a comparison is made between the two.
- How should a parable be interpreted?
 - 1) Read from the original audience’s perspective.
 - 2) Look for the main point.
 - 3) Look at the context for the right interpretation.
 - 4) Don’t build doctrine from parables.
- What is appealing about parables? Parables are true to life and resonate with the listener. Parables stir up our affections and hold our attention.
- KEY POINT: God is equally _____ with varying degrees of _____.

EXPOSITION – Four Questions

A. Who is _____ in service? (20:1-9)

The 3 Primary Characters in the Parable	
CHARACTER	SYMBOL
Master of the House	
Workers	
Foreman	

- The law commanded workers to be paid something (Leviticus 19:13; Deuteronomy 24:15).

B. What are some _____ to the service of others? (20:10-12)

- Cf. Luke 5:30

C. Why is God _____ in rewarding others? (20:13-15)

D. What is the _____ of this parable? (19:39; 20:16)

CONCLUSION

TAKE IT A STEP FURTHER

- 1) What motivates you to serve the Lord and others?
- 2) How often do you examine your motivations for service?
- 3) Book Recommendation – *Classic Sermons on Christian Service* edited by Warren Wiersbe