

A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a sandy, light-brown dirt road with visible tire tracks leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. The road is flanked by sparse, low-lying desert shrubs. In the background, a range of rugged, brown mountains rises against a pale, hazy sky. The overall tone is arid and desolate.

The Gospel of Matthew

WHY DID THE KING COME BUT NOT THE KINGDOM?

II. THE KINGDOM HAS NOT 13:54-28:20

6. The Formal Presentation and Rejection of the King, 19:3 – 25:46

(Matthew 19:27-20:16)

“Is it Worth it to Follow Christ?”

1) Universal human instinct:

2) The Christian life:

3) Peter's question

➤ The Immediate Context:

1) The Rich Young Ruler 19:16-26

Outline –

1. The rewards program of disciples v. 27
2. The reward packages for disciples vv. 28-30
3. The reward's pre-eminence for disciples vv. 1-16

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1. The rewards program of disciples v. 27

A. Determining what is being said:

- “Then Peter answered”
- “See, we have left all and followed You.” (cf. Mt. 4:20)
- “Therefore what shall we have?” (cf. 19)

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2. The reward packages for disciples vv. 28-30

A. Determining what is being said:

- The time of reward v. 28a
- The 12's reward v. 28b (cf. Rev. 21:14)
- The disciple's reward v. 29 (cf. Mk. 10:30; Lk. 18:30)
- First and last?

2. The reward packages for disciples vv. 28-30

First will be last, and the last first:

- The context of the RYR
- The context of Peter's question

“many who are first will be last” =

Greatness now will be lowliness then,

“and the last first” =

Lowliness now will be greatness then.”

Outline –

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A. Determining what is being said:

- Jesus uses a parable to illustrate His point in verse 30 vv. 1-16

1. Landowner hiring laborers v. 1
2. A denarius (days wage) is agreed wage v. 2
3. 3rd hour (9:00 am) laborers hired vv. 3-4
4. 6th hour (noon) laborers hired v. 5
5. 11th hour (5:00 pm) laborers hired vv. 6-7
6. Payment made last to the first v. 8
7. 11th hour laborers paid v. 9
8. Initial laborers paid v. 10
9. Initial laborers complain vv. 11-12
10. Wage agreement reminder vv. 13-15
11. Closing statement v. 16

Lessons of the parable:

1. Apostles will be rewarded.
2. Other disciples will be rewarded.
3. Rewards will be just.
4. God will demonstrate His generosity.

The disciple should think less about what they endured for the reward, and more about the worthiness of God and His kingdom!

Summary/Application:

- Reminder: Humility is the key kingdom trait. Not greed.
- It is worth it to follow Christ!
- It is more worth it to know Christ and to be known by Him. (cf. Philippians 3:7-8)

God is the ultimate reward, not what He gives us.



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