

“The Great Reversal – Unfair or Generous?”

Matthew 20:1-16

The Gospel of Matthew

Theme:

The intent of the text isn't showing God as unfair, but rather as extremely generous. He broadly bestows His mercy and grace to those who do not deserve anything. Throughout Matthew's Gospel there is a tension between the wise and the understanding and the infant (Matt. 11:25-27). The one reflects an attitude of entrenched entitlement and the other being banned bastards. This story is leveling the playing field. **The gospel isn't about God being FAIR. The gospel is about God being GENEROUS.** The recipients are noted as undeserving and ungrateful; whereas God is seen as inviting and good. This is the gospel and this is why we need to go and tell everyone this good news.

Introduction:

The intent of the text isn't showing God as unfair, but rather as lavishly generous. He widely dispenses His mercy and grace to those who do not deserve anything.

Outline:

- I. The HIRING (vv. 1-7)
 - The Owner (v. 1)
 - The Worker (vv. 2-9)
- II. The PAYMENT (vv. 8-16)

What's NEXT?

1. **This Is Who You Are**
 - a. You are undeserving
 - b. You are ungrateful
2. **This Is Who God Is**
 - a. God is inviting [He invited everyone to come]
 - b. God is good [He gave equally to everyone who came]