



April 28

God Does What He Wants with What He Owns

Jesse made...his sons to pass before Samuel. Samuel said...“Yahweh has not chosen these...are all your children here?” He said, “There remains yet the youngest”...Yahweh said, “Arise, anoint him; for this is he.” – 1 Samuel 16:10-12

[Matthew 20:1-16] “For the Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who was the master of a household, who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. When he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. He went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace. To them he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went their way. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. About the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle. He said to them, ‘Why do you stand here all day idle?’

“They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’

“He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and you will receive whatever is right.’ When evening had come, the lord of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers

and pay them their wages, beginning from the last to the first.’

**The last will be first,
and the first last**

“When those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius.

When the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise each received a denarius. When they received it, they murmured against the master of the household, saying, ‘These last have spent one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat!’

“But he answered one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Didn’t you agree with me for a denarius? Take that which is yours, and go your way. It is my desire to give to this last just as much as to you. Isn’t it lawful for me to do what I want to with what I own? Or is your eye evil, because I am good?’ So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few are chosen.”

1. What assumption does this parable overturn? What’s our eternal wage? Who chooses it?
2. Why did those standing idle agree to work? How could you apply this to evangelism?
3. Jesus, I was hired at the eleventh hour, so you get to decide what’s right to give me, and...