

Rewards For Faithful Service

Matthew 19:27–20:16

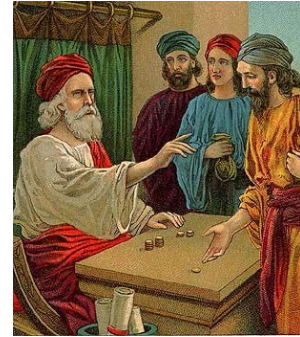
Intro: Peter, having listened to the interaction between the rich young ruler and the Lord, steps forward and asks Jesus in Matthew 19, verse 27, “Behold Lord, we have left everything and followed You; what then will there be for us when You come in Your Kingdom?” The disciples wanted to know what reward they would get because they had left everything and followed Jesus.

I. Rewards In The Kingdom (19:27–20:16)

A. Peter’s question (v. 27)

B. Jesus’ reply (vv. 28-30)

* “The last shall be first, and the first will be last” (v. 30)



“Friend, I have done you no wrong!”

II. Parable of the Gracious Landowner (20:1-16)

A. Hiring laborers (20:1-7)

First group—

Second, third, and fourth groups—

Last group—

B. Paying the laborers (20:8-16)

Last group—**First**

First group—**Last**

* “The last shall be first, and the first will be last” (v. 16)

Conclusion: Jesus uses this parable to teach His disciples that the matter of rewards is under the sovereign control of God, the “Landowner” in the parable. God is the One before whom all accounts will be settled. Many who have prominent places will someday find themselves demoted. And many who often find themselves at the end of the line will find themselves

promoted to the head of the line: “*The last shall be first, and the first will be last*” (this is a reversal of the normal order of 19:30).