

Greek Readings
Series A, Proper 20
Matt. 20:1–16

- **Verse 1**
 - Notice that the phrase Ὁμοία γάρ ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν also appears in Mt. 13:31, 33, 44, 45, 47. Look up these passages. What is the context of each?
_____ . What does Jesus mean by “kingdom”? (cf. BDAG, p. 168)
 - What is the meaning of οἰκοδεσπότης? (cf. BDAG, p. 695) _____. To whom does this term most often refer in Matthew? (cf. TDNT 2:49, BDAG, p. 659; Mt. 13:52, 20:1, 21:33; see also, Lk. 14:21; Mk. 10:25; Lk. 13:25) _____.
 - Give the dictionary entry and meaning of ἀμπελῶνα? (cf. BDAG, p. 55) _____. What does this word often refer to in the OT? (cf. Isa. 5:1-7; Jer. 12:10? _____).
- **Verse 2**
 - Parse συμφωνήσας. _____. This word is rare to the NT; what is its particular meaning in this context and why is this important? (cf. BDAG, p.961; TDNT 9:304; Mt. 18:19, 20:2; Acts 5:9) _____.
 - Translate μετὰ τῶν ἐργατῶν. _____. What is the difference in meaning between μετὰ + gen. and μετὰ + acc.? _____.
 - What is the value of a δηνάριον? (cf. BDAG, p.223; Mt. 18:28, 20:2, 22:19; Mk. 6:37, 12:15, 14:5; Lk. 7:41, etc.) _____. Why is this point important for understanding the meaning of this parable? (cf. v.13) _____.
 - τὴν ἡμέραν is in the accusative case. Why? _____.
- **Verse 3**
 - Parse ἐστῶτας. _____. Give the dictionary entry. _____. Is this word transitive or intransitive, and how can you tell the difference? _____.
 - In what sense are the laborers ἀργός? (cf. BDAG, p.128, 1; TDNT 1:452; Mt. 20:3, 6; 1 Tim. 5:13) _____. How is this distinguished from its other meanings? (cf. BDAG, p.128, 1, 2; Tit 1:12; Js 2:20; 2 Pet 1:8; Mt. 12:36) _____.
- **Verse 4**
 - Translate καὶ ὁ ἐὰν ᾗ δίκαιον δώσω ὑμῖν. _____. This is equivalent to what type of condition? _____?
 - Note the emphatic placement of ὁ ἐὰν ᾗ δίκαιον before δώσω ὑμῖν. _____. What would the laborers probably have assumed about their wages compared to the first group of laborers? _____. How does this compare with the master’s actions in vv.9-10 and their own expectations? _____.
- **Verse 5**
 - Various “hours” are recorded in this parable. What is the contemporary equivalent for the third, sixth, ninth, and eleventh hours? (Cf. BDAG 2c, p. 1102)
 - _____.
 - Translate the idiom ἐποίησεν ὡσαύτως. (cf. BDAG, p.841, 3d; see also Lk. 3:11, 10:37b) _____.
- **Verse 6**
 - Parse ἐξελθὼν. _____. Give the dictionary entry. _____.
- **Verse 7**
 - Parse ἐμισθώσατο. _____. What is the significance of μισθῶω? (cf. BDAG, pp. 653-54) _____.
 - What might this response, particularly οὐδεὶς, indicate about these laborers and their condition as ἀργοί? _____. How might this distinguish this master from the others who did not hire these laborers? _____.
 - Translate Ὑπάγετε καὶ ὑμεῖς εἰς τὸν ἀμπελῶνα. What type of καὶ is this? (cf. Smyth, p.652, §2881) how might this reinforce the intended response of the laborers as well as the master? _____.
- **Verse 8-9**
 - Explain ὀψίας . . . γενομένης . . . _____.

- ὁ κύριος τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος (cf. 21:40; see also, 9:38, 18:27) for οἰκοδεσπότης (cf. 13:52, 21:33). _____ . Why is this contextually significant? _____ .
- Parse ἀπόδος. _____ . Give the dictionary entry. _____ . What is the significance of ἀποδίδομαι? (cf. BDAG, p. 5) _____ . What meaning did this same verb have last week? (cf. Mt. 18:25, 26, 28) _____ .
- **Verse 10**
 - Parse λήμψονται. _____ . Give the dictionary entry. _____ .
 - Translate καὶ αὐτοί. _____ . What does this emphatic phrase help communicate about the first workers? _____ .
- **Verse 11**
 - Parse ἐγόγγυζον. _____ . What might the tense of this verb signify about the laborers? _____ .
 - Translate κατὰ τοῦ οἰκοδεσπότης. _____ . What is the difference in meaning between κατὰ + gen. and κατὰ + acc.? _____ .
- **Verse 12**
 - μίαν ὥραν is in the accusative case. Why? _____ .
 - Translate ἴσους ἡμῖν αὐτοὺς ἐποίησας. _____ . Parse ἴσους. _____ . What does this adjective modify? _____ .
 - What is the meaning of ἴσους? (cf. BDAG, p.481; Rev. 21:16; Acts 11:17; Mk 14:56, 59; John 5:18; Lk. 6:34; Phil 2:6) _____ . What are the spiritual implications of this word? (cf. TDNT 3:348) _____ .
 - What is the meaning of βαστάσασι? (cf. BDAG, p.171, 2bβ; see also Rev 2:2, John 16:12; Rom 15:1; Rev 2:3) _____ . How does Mt. 8:17 help us to understand βαστάζω as it relates to the laborers of Jesus? _____ .
- **Verse 13**
 - Parse Ἐταῖρε. _____ . Why is the master's use of this word important and how might we understand it better in light of Mt. 22:12; 26:50? _____ .
 - Parse ἀδικῶ. _____ . Give the dictionary entry. _____ . Why might this word have particular importance for understanding the master? (cf. TDNT 1:157; BDAG, p.20, 1; Acts 7:26; 2 Cor. 7:2; 1 Cor. 6:8; Gal 4:12; Acts 25:10) _____ .
 - Translate οὐχὶ δηναρίου συνεφώνησάς μοι; _____ . What type of response does this question anticipate? _____ . Notice that δηναρίου is a genitive of price.
- **Verse 14**
 - In the phrase θέλω δὲ τούτῳ τῷ ἐσχάτῳ δοῦναι ὡς καὶ σοί, what is the particular tone of the verbs θέλω and δίδωμι? _____ . What does this reveal to us about the master? _____ .
 - Did the τούτῳ τῷ ἐσχάτῳ deserve a day's wage? _____ . Why is this important? _____ .
- **Verse 15**
 - Parse ποιῆσαι. _____ .
 - The phrase ὀφθαλμὸς πονηρὸς appears in Mt. 6:23, 20:15; Mk. 7:22. To what does this phrase refer? _____ . How does this relate to grace? _____ .
 - What is the significance of ἀγαθός here ("good" is wrong! Cf. BDAG 2α, p.4) _____ .
- **Verse 16**
 - Parse ἔσονται. _____ . Give the dictionary entry. _____ .
 - How does v.16 relate to Mt. 19:27-30? _____ .

Integration of Meaning

Summarize the theme of this pericope in one sentence using the Law and Gospel elements found in the text.