

# WHY STAND YE HERE ALL THE DAY IDLE MATTHEW 20

Text: Matthew 20:6

Matthew 20:6

And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

Introduction:

This parable is in response to a question that Peter had asked the Lord. Peter was looking at things in a way that he shouldn't have been looking. He was concerned for himself instead of those that the Lord was concerned for.

In this story we have several pictures that we will look at this morning. Notice

# 1. THE LORD

We see

## A. His position (vs 1)

Matthew 20:1

For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

1. A man of authority
2. A man of responsibility

## B. His pursuit (vs 1)

Matthew 20:1

For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

## C. His prudence (vs 2)

Matthew 20:2

And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

## D. His persistence (vs 3)

He went out the 3rd hour, the 6th hour, the 9th hour, and the 11th hour.

Why?

1. Time was passing
2. The harvest was perishing
3. The work was pressing

E. His prerogative (vs 4)

Matthew 20:4

And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

1. He could pay as He pleased.

F. His payment (vss 8-19)

Matthew 20:8-19

So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. [9] And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. [10] But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received

every man a penny. [11] And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, [12] Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day. [13] But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? [14] Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. [15] Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good? [16] So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

[17] And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them, [18] Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, [19] And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again.

1. The timing of it (vs 8)
2. The testing of it (vs 11-12)
3. The teaching of it (vs 14)

## **2. THE LABORERS**

A. They were all hired (vs 1)

1. Different times
2. Different terms
3. But on an agreed wage

B. They were all commissioned (vs 2)

1. To go to one place - into his vineyard
2. To go at one period - today
3. For one purpose - harvest

## **3. LESSON**

A. God has a plan for your life - salvation, separation, sanctification, and service. (vs 4)

1. He pursues patiently - 6th, 9th, 11th hour
2. He pursues persistently (vs 6) "Why stand ye?"

3. He pursues passionately - for the works sake and His workers sake.

B. God has a place for you labor (vs 4) into the vineyard.

1. Its a place of labor
2. It a place of loss (vs 9) they were hired - bought - not their own
3. It's a place of learning

Matthew 11:29

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

4. It a place of life - laboring to harvest precious fruit.

C. God's principle for your loss (vs 16)

Matthew 20:16

So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

1. What shall we have (Matt 19:27)

Matthew 19:27

Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

## 2. Whatsoever is right (Matt 20:4)

Matthew 20:4

And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

- A Principle of love, loyalty, labor and lowliness (vs 15)

Matthew 20:15

Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

Close:

Not long after giving this story to the disciples e then gives them a personal illustration of this principle.

Notice:

Matthew 20:17-28

And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them, [18] Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man

shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, [19] And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again.

[20] Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. [21] And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. [22] But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. [23] And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father. [24] And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. [25] But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. [26] But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; [27] And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: [28] Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.



The real need today is not a massive harvest. The real need today is laborers. The reason many today are not involved in His work is that they are looking at what others are doing and what others are receiving.

The need to trust that what is right he will do, and be busy about the Masters work today.

What have we this past week done for our Master?

Why are people today standing idle?