

Trusting God's Graciousness Matthew 20

I. Man's Basic Problem – 19:27-30

1. Heart of sin, seen in self-centeredness
Peter reflects this with "What's in it for us?"
2. Lord answers his question
Compensation will be more than adequate
Even as much as one hundred fold
3. Jesus uses a parable to confirm this – 20:1
Note the word "for" makes the connection
God will always be more than gracious
We can trust Him to compensate us

II. Rely on God's Grace – 20:1-16

Story of man hiring workers

1. First crew agreed on wages – 1-2
Agreed on a denarius – normal day's wage
2. Second crew promised fair wage – 3-4
They were hired 3 hours later than first
3. Third & fourth crew hired later – 5
Promised same as previous crew
4. Fifth crew hired at 11th hour – 6-7
Promised "whatever is right"
5. Master paid all a denarius – 8-9
Those hired last got the same amount
6. First crew complained – 10-12
When they saw what last crew got
They thought they should get more
They felt the master was unfair
We worked longer and in heat of the day
7. The master's response – 13-16
I gave you what we agreed upon – 13-14
Can I not do what I think is best – 14-15
Can I not choose to be gracious?
The last may really be first & first, last
God will reward graciously
Can we not trust Him?

III. Reflect upon His Sacrifice – 17-19

1. Jesus tells disciples what's ahead for Him
We are going to Jerusalem
He will be betrayed by one of His own
He will be condemned to death by priests &
scribes
They will turn Him over to Gentile authorities
Gentile leaders will mock, scourge & crucify Him
2. Surely He was treated unfairly
He was innocent of all charges, without sin
3. But He will rise again the third day

IV. More Self-centeredness 20-28

1. Peter asked question in 19:27-30
Jesus answered and told the parable
Followed with what was to happen to Him
2. Now James & John's request – 20:20-21
Request came through their mother
Asked for chief seats in the Kingdom
3. Jesus' response to their request – 22-23
Do you realize what you are requesting?
Will you join me in my suffering?
Yes Lord we will do it
You will indeed suffer for my sake
James was beheaded in Acts 12
John was exiled on Patmos (penal colony) –
Revelation
But first place will be given by my Father
4. Ten disciples upset with the two – 24
5. Jesus sees need for more teaching – 25-27
Unbelieving world's view of leadership - 25
They exercise their authority over others
This is not to be true of believers – 26
Leaders are to lead by serving others
Chief leaders are to serve all under them – 27
6. Jesus again is our example – 28
He came to serve, even to give His life for us

V. Compassion of Jesus – 29-34

1. On His way to Jerusalem – 29
Departed from Jericho – Last leg of journey
Followed by a great multitude
2. Two blind men seek His help – 30
Cried to Him – Son of David (Messiah)
3. The crowd rebuked them – 31
Saw them as a disturbance
But they did not stop their cries
4. Jesus healed them – 32-34
He had compassion on them