### Matthew

## Chapter 20

1‘For the Kingdom of the heavens is like a man, the master of his house, who went out very early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. 2And when they agreed on a payment of one silver coin per day, he sent them out to work in his field.  
  
 3‘However, he thereafter went out again (about the 3rd hour [9am]) and noticed others that were standing in the marketplace looking for work, 4and he said:  
  
 ‘You go into the vineyard also, and I’ll pay you whatever is fair.’  
  
 5‘So off they went.  
  
 ‘Then he went out again about the 6th and the 9th hours [12 noon and 3pm] and he did the same thing.  
  
 ‘6Finally, about the 11th hour [5pm], he went out and found more workers standing around, and he asked them:  
  
 ‘Why have you been standing here all day long unemployed?’  
  
 7‘And they said:  
  
 ‘Because nobody has hired us!’  
  
 ‘So, he said to them:  
  
 ‘Then you go into my vineyard too.’  
  
 8‘Well, later that evening, the master of the vineyard told the man in charge to call in all the workers and pay them their wages… And he told him to pay the last ones first.  
  
 9‘So [after] the 11th hour [5pm], the men came in and he started paying each of them a silver coin. 10However, when it came time [to pay] the first, these figured that they’d be getting more… Yet they were also paid a [single] silver coin.  
  
 11‘And as they were receiving it, they started complaining about the master, saying:  
  
 12‘Even though these last ones just put in only one hour’s work, he paid them the same as those of us that worked all day long in the burning heat!’  
  
 13‘But in reply to one of them, [the master] said:  
  
 ‘Man, I haven’t done you any wrong! Didn’t we agree on one silver coin? 14Take what is yours and go. I paid the last ones the same as you, because I want to! 15And isn’t it legal for me to do whatever I wish with my own things? Are you viewing me as wicked because I’ve done something good?’  
  
 16‘So understand this:  
  
 ‘The last will be the first and the first will be the last.’ For many are called, but few chosen. [spurious words, copied from Matthew 22:14]  
  
  
17Then, as they were starting down the road to JeruSalem, Jesus took the 12 disciples off privately and explained this to them… He said:  
  
 18‘{Look!} We’re heading up to JeruSalem, where the Son of Man will be betrayed to the Chief Priests and Scribes, and they’ll condemn him to death. 19Then they’ll hand him over to the gentiles, who will make fun of him, whip him, and impale him… But on the third day he will be raised!’  
  
  
  
20Well sometime later, the mother of the sons of ZebediOu came up to him with her [two] sons, and she bowed low as if to request something.  
  
21So he asked her:  
  
 ‘What is it that you want?’  
  
And she said:  
  
 ‘[Promise me] that my two sons will sit, one at your right hand and one on your left, in your Kingdom.’  
  
22But Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘You don’t really know what you’re asking… Can they drink from the same cup that I’ll be drinking?’  
  
And [her sons] answered:  
  
 ‘Yes we can!’  
  
23So he said to them:  
  
 ‘You will indeed drink from my same cup! But sitting on my right and left isn’t mine to give… It belongs to those for whom my Father has prepared it.’  
  
24Well when the 10 other [disciples] heard what the brothers had done, they became very angry with them. 25However, Jesus called them all to him and said this:  
  
 ‘You know how the rulers of the nations like to be masters over [the people] and keep them under their feet… 26But you shouldn’t be like that! Rather, whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant, 27and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave.  
  
 28‘For this is how the Son of Man came… Not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.’  
  
  
  
29Then, as they were leaving JeriCho with a large crowd following them, 30{Look!} there were two blind men sitting alongside the road who heard that Jesus was passing by.  
  
So they shouted:  
  
 ‘Lord… Have mercy on us, Son of David!’  
  
31But even though the crowd told them to be quiet, they shouted even louder:  
  
 ‘Lord… Have mercy on us, Son of David!’  
  
32So Jesus stopped and called them over, and asked:  
  
 ‘What do you want me to do for you?’  
  
33And they replied:  
  
 ‘Lord, we want you to open our eyes!’  
  
34Then, moved with pity, Jesus touched their eyes, and immediately they were able to see… And they started following him.