

Date: 6/18/17 RBC SF3007

Title: The Reward of Serving the Lord

Text: Matthew 20:1-16

God Is Rewarder of Those Who Believe in Him

Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

God's Grace Makes the Reward of Salvation the Same for All Who Believe

God is sovereign. God is merciful. God is Just.

The landowner had the right to "overpay" the late workers. He said "whatever is right you will receive." He determined what was right, not based on ordinary human accounting, but grace. His overpayment of the late workers was his choice and nobody could argue he didn't have that right.

God's Reward of Salvation Cannot Be Earned

Reward in the kingdom is not dispensed by virtue of time served but by grace extended to the chosen (willing; many are called but not willing). Seniority does not necessarily mean honor. Experience in years doesn't promise greater pay. Remember, it is all based on grace - not ordinary human economic calculations of so much pay for so much work.

Ephesians 2:8-9 - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.