

# The Workers of the Vineyard

## Cathedral of Saint Matthew – Houston, Texas

I am going to reflect with you about three aspects of this Parable that Lord Jesus told us about the workers of the Vineyard.

First, the schedule or time to work in the Vineyard.

Some are called from the beginning, others later, at noonday, others at the eleventh hour or almost at the end of the day.

The owner of the Vineyard wants us all to work in his Vineyard. Some have worked since the beginning, like our Father Abraham, Moses, or the holy king David. Others since the seventh century as San Augustine, since the 12<sup>th</sup> century like Saint Francisco of Assisi, or from these last times. We are all called to work hard and partner without watching for the pay which will be the same for each worker - to be with our God in the Kingdom of The Heavens.

Second, the pay or prize for the work in the vineyard of the Lord.

The Lord offers us a just salary, but we always want more. We always want to take advantage. We recall the Apostles James and John. They once approached the Lord and said to him that they wanted to sit on his right and left side in the Kingdom. This caused anger from the other Apostles, and what did Jesus tell them? That they still had not understood anything. That “if any man desire to be [first](#), the same shall be last of all, and [servant](#) of all.”

Third, the value of humility.

“The last will be the first and the first will be the last” in the Kingdom of Heaven is a paradox. And the same Lord Jesus Christ gave us his example. He was the Servant of Yahweh! He was obedient even until the cross. He came to serve, forever and to everyone. A good example of this is during the Last Supper Jesus washed the feet of the Apostles as a sign of humility. And when Peter did not want to allow Jesus to wash his feet, because this task was done by slaves, Jesus told Peter that if he did not allow him to wash his

feet, then he would have no part with him in the kingdom of The Heavens, and Peter told him - not just the feet then, but the whole body!

Finally we recall what once our Lord Jesus Christ said: Learn of me that I am docile and humble of heart and you will encounter rest and peace for your souls. Amen. So it is! In the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.