# Lesson 21 Matthew Chapter 20:1-34, 21:1-11 Entry into Jerusalem

Life in Christ: When did you feel closest to Our Lord this week?

Workers in the Vineyard

1. A. At first reading the landowner does not seem to be treating his workers fairly. But, we must remember, when studying parables, we are not talking about vineyards, workers, and landowners; we are talking about the justice and mercy of God, eternal life in heaven, and divine judgment. Restate the general outline of the parable in terms of God, heaven, sinners, and judgment.

Matthew 20:1-16

1 “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.

2 After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

3 Going out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace,

4 and he said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.’

5 So they went off. [And] he went out again around noon, and around three o’clock, and did likewise.

6 Going out about five o’clock, he found others standing around, and said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’

7 They answered, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard.’

8 When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.’

9 When those who had started about five o’clock came, each received the usual daily wage.

10 So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage.

11 And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner,

12 saying, ‘These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day’s burden and the heat.’

13 He said to one of them in reply, ‘My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?

14 Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?

15 [Or] am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?’

16 Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”.”

B Is God being merciful or unjust? Consider when is the last moment that salvation can be received and the difference between true repentance and merely expecting God’s mercy?

C Have you ever been in a similar situation either as “landowner” being accused of treating “workers” unequally or as a “worker” seeing another “worker” receive more than you? How did you feel?

Blind Men of Jericho

1. A. In vs 30 and 31, it looks as if the two blind men do not understand who Jesus is by calling Him, Son of David. On the other hand. It also seems that they see who He is better than most because they call him, Lord; Kyrie in Greek, Domine in Latin. What is the significance of calling Him Son of David on the one hand and Lord on the other?

Matthew 20:29-34

29 As they left Jericho, a great crowd followed him.

30 Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was passing by, they cried out, “[Lord,] Son of David, have pity on us!”

31 The crowd warned them to be silent, but they called out all the more, “Lord, Son of David, have pity on us!”

32 Jesus stopped and called them and said, “What do you want me to do for you?”

33 They answered him, “Lord, let our eyes be opened.”

34 Moved with pity, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight, and followed him.

B How does Jesus fulfill Isaiah’s prophecy both physically and spiritually?

Isaiah 29:18-19

18 On that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book; And out of gloom and darkness, the eyes of the blind shall see.

19 The lowly will ever find joy in the LORD, and the poor rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

C How does verse 34 demonstrate what Jesus meant when He told His disciples how hard it will be for the rich to enter the Kingdom of Heaven after He told the rich young man what was required for eternal life in Matthew 19:21-24

Matthew 19:21-24

21 Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to [the] poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

22 When the young man heard this statement, he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Amen, I say to you, it will be hard for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Entry into Jerusalem

1. Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, enters Jerusalem, the city of David, riding on an ass; not a mighty war horse or a chariot followed by an army.

Matthew 21:1-11

1 When they drew near Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,

2 saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tethered, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them here to me.

3 And if anyone should say anything to you, reply, ‘The master has need of them.’ Then he will send them at once.”

4 This happened so that what had been spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled:

5 “Say to daughter Zion,   
‘Behold, your king comes to you,  
meek and riding on an ass,

and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had ordered them.

7 They brought the ass and the colt and laid their cloaks over them, and he sat upon them.

8 The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road.

9 The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying:

“Hosanna to the Son of David;

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;

hosanna in the highest.”

10 And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, “Who is this?”

11 And the crowds replied, “This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee.”

A The NABRE footnote explains the meaning of “Hosanna” in Hebrew. How is that related to the meaning of Jesus name given by the angel to Joseph in Matthew 1:21?

* Greek name “Jesus” (yesous)
* Hebrew name “Joshua” (yehoshua’)
* “Joshua” means “the Lord is salvation”
* Aramaic “Jeshua” (yeshua).

NABRE footnote to Matthew 21:9

Hosanna: the Hebrew means “(O Lord) grant salvation”

Matthew 1:21

21 She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

B In case it is not clear what is going on in this event, Luke’s Gospel is explicit. Who is Jesus claiming to be by this action

Luke 19:39-40

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.”\*

40 He said in reply, “I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!”

D In vs 9, the people cry out “blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” When is Jesus’ prophecy of Matthew 23:39 literally fulfilled for us now, in our lives?

Matthew 23:39

39 I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

E In vs 10, the people in the city ask, “Who is this?” Who do you say this is?