

*“And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:” 1 Peter 1:17 KJV*

Jesus told a parable the aptly interprets today's passage. *“For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said unto them; ‘Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you.’ And they went their way. Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, ‘Why stand ye here all the day idle?’ They say unto him, ‘Because no man hath hired us.’ He saith unto them, ‘Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.’ So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, saying, ‘These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.’ But he answered one of them, and said, ‘Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?”* We must not judge our own providence from God by what others receive of His hand. We all receive that which we need, as promised, if we seek God first in all things. *“Seek ye first the kingdom of God AND His righteousness. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: By faith Noah...became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.”* At the same time, do not think yourself exempt from punishment if you disobey just because you believe. *“For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth (corrects), and scourgeth (molds) every son whom He receiveth. But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.”* Those who go unpunished for their sins are not God's children.



Importance none in eyes of God,  
Of men who walk upon the sod,  
They'll each be judged by their own deeds,  
Each receiving for his own need. -CGP

I do not need to tell you what your sins are. Everyone is condemned of His own God-given conscience unless God has turned you over to a reprobate mind. *“As they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind. Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”* Do any of these go unpunished in your life? If so, I would seriously examine my relationship with God in the light of His Word, and not by the

interpretation of some scholar, priest, pastor, friend, or relative. God gave you a marvellous brain to discern good and evil, Truth from lie. He has also given the Holy Spirit to “*guide you into all Truth*” as you read and study the Holy Scriptures. Do not think yourself incapable of understanding God’s Word. A good English dictionary (Webster’s 1828) and careful reading (King James version) of Scripture with prayer and a willing heart will reveal God to you! “*If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally.*” God has sent many trials my way, but I emerge from each, by His grace, more determined and confident in “*whom I have believed!*” Trials are not sent our way to destroy us, but rather to season us into better warriors against evil. We are all equally culpable and rewarded under God’s Law, because He is no respecter of persons! We are all beggars compared to God! There is no caste system in the grave! Priest and pauper rot in the same dirt and go to the same hell if they are not God’s child through faith alone!

*“Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” James 1:3-5 KJV*

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