

"THE 41 PARABLES JESUS CHRIST"

28 general parables and 13 kingdom of God parables

Parable #16 – "THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD"

[Matthew 20:1-4,5-8,9-12,13-16](#)

The 7th of the 28 general parables

BACKGROUND:

In 445BC, with **one Bible week** equating to **seven years** (a prophetic year being 360 days), God commanded that **seventy weeks** each of **7 years**, would be determined upon Israel, that is ... **70 weeks x 7 years = 490 years** ([Daniel 9:24-27](#)).

This time frame is broken into **four** time periods of (a) **7 weeks** + (b) **62 weeks** + (c) the mystery church age of about 2,000 years + (d) **1 week = 70 weeks** and is explained as follows:

#1. **Seven** weeks of years is **7 x 7 = 49** years ... the time it takes to restore and build Jerusalem from 445BC to 396BC.

#2. **Sixty two** weeks of years is **62 x 7 = 434** years ... the time from the building of Jerusalem in 396BC to Christ being cut off at the cross in 32AD.

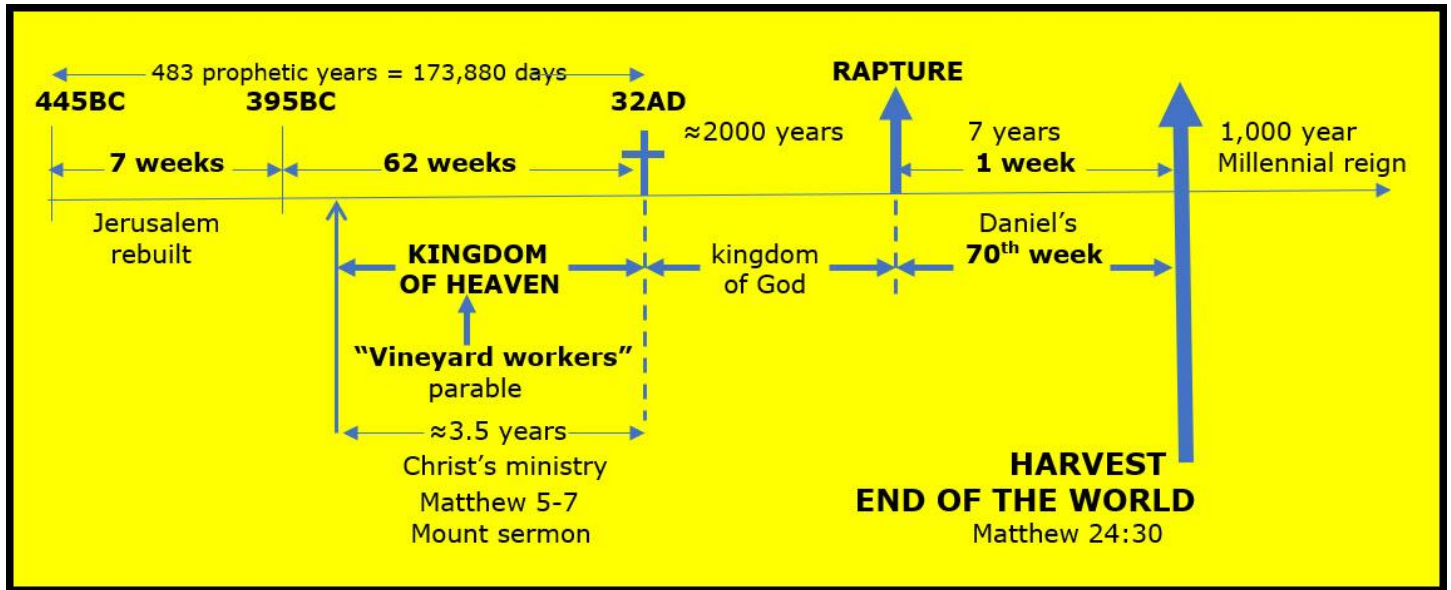
#3. The church age of approximately 2,000 years

#4. **One week** of years is **1 x 7 = 7** years ... this is the seven years of tribulation of God's wrath upon the earth, that takes place after the rapture ... called **Daniel's 70th week**.

The following **Timeline** will help (not drawn to scale):

[DANIEL 9:24-27](#)

*"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city ... from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be **seven weeks**, and **threescore and two weeks** ... after **threescore and two weeks** shall Messiah be cut off ... he shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week** ..."*



"THE VINEYARD WORKERS"

[Matthew 20:1-4,5-8,9-12,13-16](#)

v1 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**. v2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a **penny a day**, he sent them into his vineyard. v3 And he went out about **the third hour**, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, v4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way. v5 Again he went out about the **sixth** and **ninth hour**, and did likewise. v6 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? v7 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. v8 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. v9 And when they came that were **hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny**. v10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. v11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, v12 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**. v13 But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: **didst not thou agree with me for a penny?** v14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. v15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good? v16 So **the last shall be first, and the first last**: for many be called, but few chosen.

EXPLANATION:

Israel is **jealous** that Gentiles have access to salvation to Israel's God ... **very, very late in the day** ... at 'five minutes to mid-night' as the saying goes.

kingdom of heaven = see the above diagram ... Christ with his sermon on the mount

a man = God the Father

householder = Jesus Christ

hire labourers = men who would work under kingdom of heaven rules

into his vineyard = Israel

a penny a day = a day's wage ... today the average daily wage is \$250 to \$300?

the third hour = 9am

others standing idle in the marketplace = men who would work under kingdom of heaven rules

the sixth and ninth hour = midday 12pm and 3pm in the afternoon

the eleventh hour = 5pm

even was come = 6pm the close of a day's work

the lord of the vineyard = Christ

beginning from the last unto the first = those hired at 5pm first followed by those hired at 6am

hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny = those hired at 5pm got the total day's wage

the first came ... received every man a penny = those hired at 6am also got the total day's wage

they murmured = OOOOPS! Bad move fellas! See [1 Corinthians 10:10](#) and [Exodus 15:24; 16:2; 17:3; Numbers 14:2; Numbers 14:29](#) and so on

them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day = the Jew has had to wrestle with God and his laws for close to 1875 years, before Christ appeared. There has been a history of blood, sweat and tears as it were, and Gentile hasn't had to go through all of this.

However if the Jew would continuously believe in Jesus Christ would they get into Abraham's bosom upon death ([Luke 16:23](#)) and wait to be taken to heaven ([Ephesians 4:8](#)).

didst not thou agree with me for a penny = This was the Jew's penny, that they could get to Abraham's bosom and then into the kingdom of God, and then into heaven. They were jealous that the Gentile could simply turn up, and also get a penny without the blood, sweat and tears.

Is thine eye evil, because I am good = let God be true and everyman a liar ([Romans 3:4](#))

for many be called = everybody ... both Jews and Gentiles. The meaning of the word 'many' is everybody is explained in Romans chapter 5:15, 19 where it states "many be dead" and "many were made sinners" ... many is everyone without exception!

but few chosen = today it is chosen in Christ **not into Christ** as the Calvinists would have us believe. When **you are saved, then the 'choosing' happens** and not before.

As explained by "Even us, whom **he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people** (Gentiles); and her beloved, which was not beloved. And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall **they be called the children of the living God.**" (Romans" (9:24-26)

CHRISTIAN

These last couple of points are wrongly twisted by the **Calvinist** aka **The Doctrines of Grace** people who believe we are chosen **into** Christ and not in Christ before the foundation of the world ([Ephesians 1:4](#)).

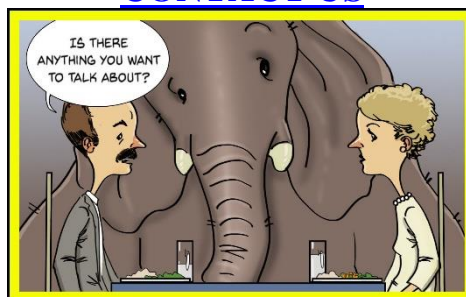
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