

THE ELEVENTH-HOUR CALL

MATTHEW 20:1-8

(Outline # 6)

Meditation: *COL* 127:4; or *CSW* 28-30.

INTRODUCTION: This parable is generally understood as the parable of grace. It reveals that in worldly business, compensation is given according to that which one earns. But in the parable, Christ illustrates that His kingdom is not governed by any human standard. This point is forcibly set forth by the Householder who pays the laborers the same wage whether they have worked one hour or all day. The purpose of our study today, however, is to look deeper into the message of this parable 'to sink the shaft deeper into the mine of truth.' (*CW* 41).

Read: Matthew 20:1-8

Review: The various transactions.

- a. All calls were made at 3 hour intervals, except for the last (the 11th hour call).

1. **Whom Does The Householder Symbolize?**

Read: COL 396, 397

—God the Father

2. **What Do The Laborers Symbolize?**

Read: Luke 10:1-2

—The saints

3. **What Is The Meaning Of The Vineyard?**

Read: COL 301 or 6T 24

—the world —the place where the saints labor.

4. **What Is The Meaning Of The Market Place?**

Read: 5T 203

Those standing idle in the marketplace are those standing in the church. See also *AA* 110, 47518

5. **The Ancient Time Clock**

In the days of Christ and even now in some countries, time is regulated by sunset at twelve o'clock. Near the equator where the days and nights are continually equal, the sun sets at twelve and rises at twelve. Therefore, six o'clock would be noon in the light part (top part of the chart), and six o'clock in the dark part would be midnight (bottom part of the chart). This is the kind of time Jesus used in the parable. See John 11:9.

6. **Who Are The Early Morning Laborers?**

Read: COL 400

- a. The Jews/Ancient Israel were the first ones called into the Lord's work.

Read: Matt. 20:2

- a. They are the only ones with whom God made an agreement (covenant). See Ps. 105:8-11
- b. To all the other laborers the Householder sent out saying, 'Whatsoever is right that shall ye receive.' (See also COL 397.)

7. **When Were The First Laborers Called Into The Vineyard?**

Read: Matt. 20:1-2

When the sun was rising (early in the morning).

Read: Psalms 119:105

The Bible is our spiritual sun or light.

Read: GC V; Hag. 2:5

Thus, the Israelites were sent into the vineyard just when the spiritual sun (the Bible) was coming into existence.

8. **What Was The Message Of Israel?**

Read: Exodus 25:8

- a. The sanctuary service along with the ceremonial system.
- b. The ceremonial system in connection with the sanctuary as a new or original truth (not understood before). *So must it be with the following calls. See GC 609 or COL 127.*

9. **Who Are The Third Hour Laborer?**

Read: Acts 13:46

- a. The message of the Jews met its fulfillment at the cross. Thus, then call must have come somewhere around the crucifixion of Christ.
- b. This was the time of the Gospel, the next new and original new truth.
- c. **Matt. 28:19** —The Apostles were the next laborers. The Lord called and sent them to the vineyard.
- d. **Mark 15:25** —We note that providentially Christ was crucified at the 3rd hour, and that the Apostles received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the 3rd hour of the day. This reveals God's special providence in correlating the literal 3rd hour with the spiritual/ symbolic 3rd hour.

10. **Who Are The Sixth Hour Laborers?**

- a. The only new truth after the early Christian church was the message of the 2300 days and the second advent of Christ, proclaimed by Miller and his associates. They announced the Judgment to the world.
- b. The sixth hour laborers could **not** be the Protestant Reformers because their endeavors were purely to restore old down-trodden truths, not to reveal new ones. In other words, they

taught the same truths as the Apostles.

11. **Who Are The Ninth Hour Laborers?**

The only movement with a freshly revealed truth after Miller and his co-laborers would be that of the SDA church coming up in 1844 teaching the Judgment of the dead—the Third Angel's Message.

12. **The Sixth And Ninth Calls Are Closely Related**

Read: Matt. 20:5

- a. Both calls or movements are connected. One picked up where the other left off. Both movements are connected by the same year (1844) One ended (First-day Adventists) in 1844, the other (SDA) started the same year.

13. **Who Are The Eleventh Hour Laborers?**

The faithful SDA's who will proclaim the loud cry to the whole world.

- a. The **11th** hour **call** is the last on record coming just one hour before sunset (end of time—John 9:4).
- b. The call comes within the time period (3 hours) allotted to the Ninth hour workers, indicating that the 11th hour call is NOT another church, but a laymen's movement—A Call Within A Call.
- c. It also shows that something has gone wrong, and the work of finishing the Gospel is delayed—not progressing as it should. Thus, another call had to be made just *one hour before sunset*. (See 5T 217; TM 86).
- d. If all the previous calls were new truths then the 11th hour call *MUST* also be a new truth.
- e. This shows, too, that **another** message is to come **within** the church to finish the Gospel.

14. **What Is The Eleventh Hour Message?**

Read: 6T 406.4

Here we see that the Third Angel's message is to be followed by another angel who is to lighten the earth with its glory. (Rev. 18)

Read: Rev. 18:I-4

—This angel is not flying in the midst of heaven, but is come down. Therefore, it cannot be the same as the three angels of Rev. 14.

Read: EW 277

(the whole page) an additional message to the third.

Points Of Emphasis In EW 277:

- a. Fourth angel gives 'power' and 'force' to the Third Angel's message. Showing that He is an additional message, but empowers the old.
- b. He unites his voice with the third. Showing that he has his own voice (message).
- c. It prepares the people of God for the hour of temptation ahead. Without it (this angel) the church would not be ready for the time of trouble ahead.
- d. When this message is to be given it must be fearlessly

proclaimed. This is not being done now. Therefore, this call is yet future.

- e. It is an 'ADDITION' to the Third Angel's message. Therefore, this other angel is a message separate and apart from the third message, but will give power and force to it swelling it to a loud cry. It is not the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but a message which prepares the church for it.

15. **The Call To Come Out Of Babylon Is Not Being Given Today?**

Read: GC 389

- a. We note here that the fall of Babylon is not yet complete and she has not made all nations to drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Hence, the message and call of Rev. 18 is still yet future.

Read: GC 383 (1888 Edition)

- a. 'The message of Revelation 14 announcing the fall of Babylon must apply to religious bodies that were once pure and have become corrupt. Since this message follows the warning of the judgment, it must be given in the last days, therefore, it cannot refer to the Romish church, for that church has been in a fallen condition for many centuries. Furthermore, in the eighteenth chapter of the Revelation *in a message which is yet future*, the people of God are called upon to come out of Babylon.'
- b. This shows that the angel of Rev. 18 is a message and that it had not yet come at that time.

16. **Who Are The Eleventh Hour Workers?**

Read: Rev. 7:1-4

- a. —The 144,000 is the only group specially from the SDA Church (9* -12* hour movement).

Read: Rev. 7:3

- a. —tells us that they are servants of God —preachers to finish the Gospel in the vineyard (the world).
- b. Therefore, the 11th hour workers must be the **Faithful** SDAs—The church purified-144,000. See outline on Revelation 7, part 1 for more information.

CONCLUSION: The 11th hour Call is an additional message that comes to the SDA Church first, seals the 144,000 and prepares them to proclaim the last gospel proclamation. Without this additional message of Revelation 18, there will be no power and force to the Third Angel's message.

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