

# One Year Bible Challenge

Read the whole Bible in one year

## Week 5, February 5, 2011: “Life's not fair”

**This week's Reading:** Old Testament: Exodus 8:1-21:21  
(January 29 – February 4) New Testament: Matthew 19:13-23:39  
Psalms: Psalm 24:1-28:9  
Proverbs: Proverbs 6:1-7:5

### Highlights:

- I. Background: King James Bible, and it's “variants”
- II. The Story
  - A. Old Testament
  - B. New Testament
- III. Discussion Points
  - A. OLD TESTAMENT: What is a “hardened heart?” And why did Pharaoh have one? Exodus 14:1-4
  - B. NEW TESTAMENT: Is it “fair” for the man who worked a full day to receive *only* a day's wage, when that's the same pay received by the worker who worked only a short time at the very end of the day? Matthew 20:1-16. How does this story relate to the kingdom of heaven?
- IV. Summary and Conclusions

### Key Bible Verses:

Exodus 14:1-4 (New King James Version)

#### The Red Sea Crossing

[1] Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: [2] “Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the

sea. [3] For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, ‘They *are* bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.’ [4] Then I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I *am* the LORD.” And they did so.

#### Matthew 20:1-16 (New King James Version)

##### The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

[1] “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. [2] Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. [3] And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, [4] and said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. [5] Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. [6] And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day?’ [7] They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.’ [8] “So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, ‘Call the laborers and give them *their* wages, beginning with the last to the first.’ [9] And when those came who *were hired* about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. [10] But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. [11] And when they had received *it*, they complained against the landowner, [12] saying, ‘These last *men* have worked *only* one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.’ [13] But he answered one of them and said, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? [14] Take *what is* yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man *the same* as to you. [15] Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?’ [16] So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.”

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