

Abstract

The Image of God's Justice in the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

The parable about the workers in the vineyard from the Gospel of Matthew depicts the contrast between human and Godly conception of justice. The subject of the thesis is a comparison of the picture given in this parable by Jesus about the God's justice with the Old Testament picture of the Lord as the righteous God. Following a short initial characteristic of the Gospel of Matthew the thesis deals at first with the common interpretation of the conception of a parable. Then the survey of the exegesis of the parable itself is given, both by Church Fathers and by modern authors. The fourth chapter aims at the concept of justice in the Scripture of both the New and the Old Testaments, with a short discursion into the contemporary Graeco-Roman cultural world. The conclusion deduces that the picture of the God's justice inseparable from grace, given by Jesus, is more likely a consistent elaboration of the Old Testament texts than some completely new and revolutionary idea. It can become a source of deep Christian hope.

Keywords

Parable, workers in the vineyard, God's justice, mercy, hope