

WORK OF THE LAST HOUR – Part 1

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WE ARE THE WORKERS OF ELEVENTH HOUR

Matt. 20: 2-16 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius^(a) for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³ “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ ⁵ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

⁷ “Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

⁸ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

⁹ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

- **We will work less hours, however producing equal or more than the others**

Where are we in God’s timeframe for humanity?

What is the definition of “Today”?

What are the major changes in this present generation?

He replied, "When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times (Matt. 16: 2)

Let's identify our hearings

Who is my audience today? How many are they? Where are they? What are their lifestyles?

a) TODAY'S - World population

(**Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia** ↑ [United States Census Bureau](#) ↑ Leonard, David. "World Population to hit 6.5 Billion on Saturday". [February 24, 2006](#). MSNBC ↑ [World population prospects: the 2004 revision population database](#)

The Day of 6 Billion

The [United Nations Population Fund](#) designated [October 12, 1999](#) as the approximate day on which world population reached six [billion](#). It was officially designated **The Day Of 6 Billion**.

This was about 12 years after the world population reached five [billion](#), in 1987.

The last 70 years of the [20th century](#) saw the biggest increase in the world's population in human history. The following table shows when each billion milestone was met:

- 1 billion was reached in 1802.
- 2 billion was reached 125 years later in 1927.
- 3 billion was reached 34 years later in 1961.
- 4 billion was reached 13 years later in 1974.
- 5 billion was reached 13 years later in 1987.
- 6 billion was reached 12 years later in 1999.

Current projections by the UN's Population Division, based on the [2004](#) revision of the World Population Prospects database, are as follows.

Year	Population (billions)
2010	6.8

2020	7.6
2030	8.2
2040	8.7
2050	9.1

b) AN URBAN SOCIETY

In 1950, only two cities, New York and London, had more than eight million inhabitants, by the end of 2015, 33 cities are expected to have more than eight million. Nineteen of these will be in Asia.

Two centuries ago the world was rural, with an urbanization of 4%. By 1900 these had increased to 14% with 18 megacities (more than 1 million), and two super cities (more than 8 millions). In 2000 it reached 51% urbanized, about 20 supergiant, 79 super cities and 433 megacities. By 2100 the number of rural inhabitants may be only 10% of the world's population. (Perspectives Third edition – Edited by Ralph D. Winter, Steven C. Hawthorne)

c) PART OF A GLOBAL VILLAGE

Technology had changed today's society. We are coming back to Genesis 11.

Internet - cash less society.

d) THE SPIRITUAL CONDITIONS

The spiritual condition of today's society had also changed dramatically.

Postmodernist and the search for the transcendent

- **NEW AGE MOVEMENT** – Star war “use the force” – Mysticism, the occult, ancient Celtic believes, astrology, witchcraft and so on.
- **MOTHER NATURE WORSHIP** – Sin and wrong most likely be interpreted as an offense against nature. Pollution is sin against the god of nature.
- **FALSE CHRISTIANITY, PRESENTING FALSE JESUS (CULTS)** -

The answer of some children of primary age of the following question: “What do you suppose God might want to say to you/”

- “Don’t pollute.” “Plant a tree.” “Look after the animals.” “Remember to recycle.”

Matt. 24: 12; I Timothy 4: 1, II Timothy 3: 1; II Tm. 4: 3-4

The post-modern mind is: “What kind of God are you describing to me?” Is your God good?”

e) SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The social aspects of today’s society is also out of balance

The 2 kinds of places and 2 kinds of people with two different responses

1 - The Lord told us about two kinds of society. And they would be living in two different places.

1. A place of poverty, misery, calamity, diseases – Luke 21: 10-11-16-17

“There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places” (not all the places)

Where are these places? The third world countries

2. A place of abundance, prosperity, business, parties, - Luke 17: 20-26-28

“Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷ People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all. “It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. ²⁹ But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.

- ***We are a generation of end times with an***
- ***Explosion of human population,***
- ***living in urban areas,***
- ***in a technological era,***
- ***spiritually wicked***
- ***and with a huge social gap***