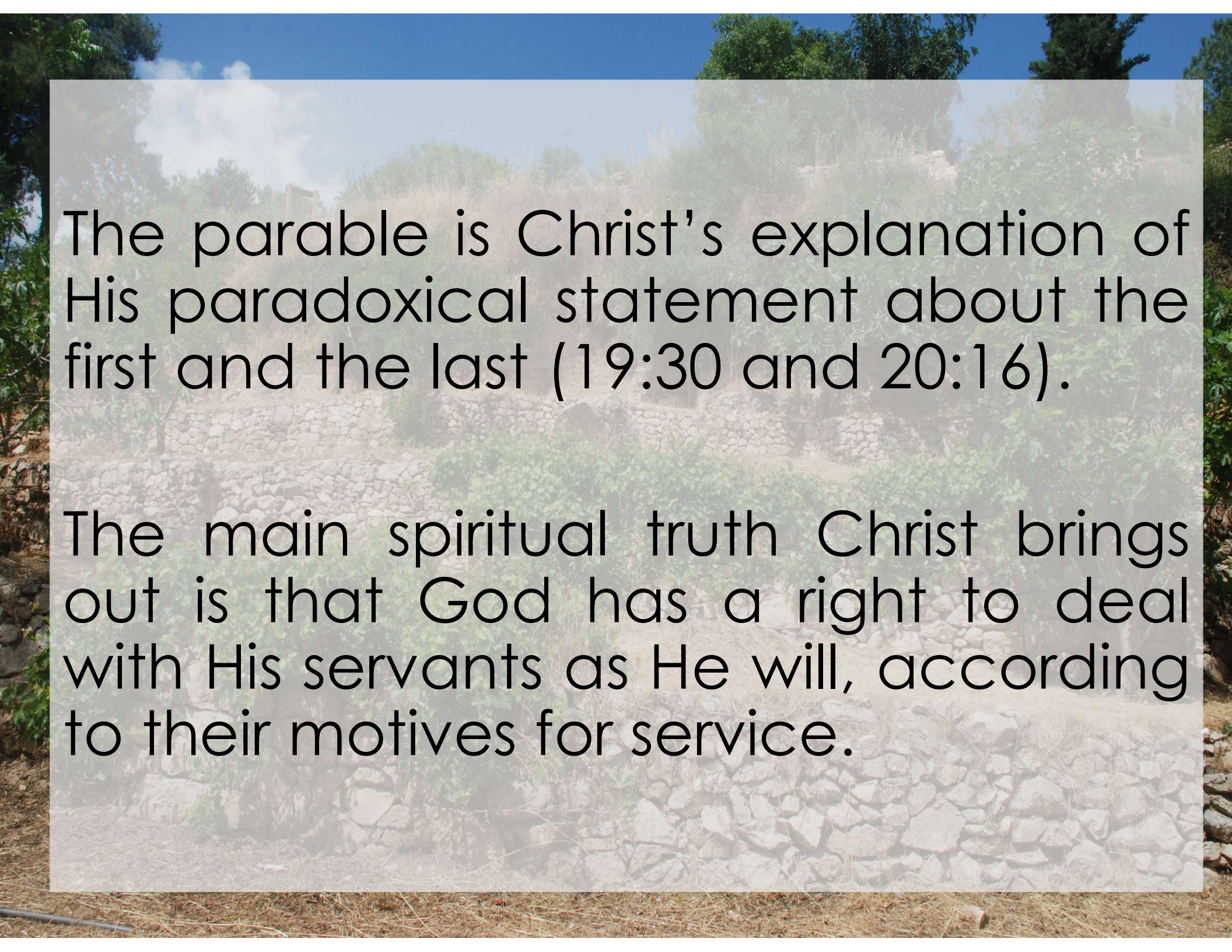




The *Generous* Boss

Matthew 20:1-16

The Parable of the Vineyard

The background of the image is a photograph of a stone path leading up a hill. The path is made of irregular stones and is surrounded by lush green trees and bushes. The sky is blue with some white clouds. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box.

The parable is Christ's explanation of His paradoxical statement about the first and the last (19:30 and 20:16).

The main spiritual truth Christ brings out is that God has a right to deal with His servants as He will, according to their motives for service.

Four Components of a Parable

1. Simple
2. Attractive
3. Relevant
4. Instructive

Two Levels of Christ's Teaching

1. Comparison kills contentment.

- Human level

2. God is gracious to all.

- Spiritual level

Take Home Truths

1. Are you comparing your circumstances?
2. Are you grateful or grumbling?
3. Are you faithful to your opportunity?



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