

# Matthew 20:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,

## Analysis

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This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

## Historical Context

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First-century Palestine was marked by religious fervor and political tension. The passage reflects interactions between Jesus and various groups: Pharisees, Sadducees, disciples, and crowds. Each audience received teaching tailored to their needs and spiritual condition.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ?
2. What false beliefs or practices does this text correct?
3. How should you share this truth with others?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	ἐξελθὼν	περὶ	τὴν	τρίτην	ὥραν	εἶδεν	ἄλλους
And	he went out	about	G3588	the third	hour	and saw	others
G2532	G1831	G4012		G5154	G5610	G1492	G243
ἐστῶτας	ἐν	τῇ		ἀγορᾷ		ἀργούς	
standing	in	G3588		the marketplace		idle	
G2476	G1722			G58		G692	

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Timothy 5:13** (Parallel theme): And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.

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