

The Parables of the Kingdom

Matthew 13:47-58 Separation

Parables of the Kingdom – The Kingdom of Heaven is about the Lord's influence in the affairs of men – **The Spreading of God's rule & reign among men**

Started when Jesus showed up and will continue & get more defined through the millennial reign of Christ – After which we read of new heaven and new earth

Parables are Pictures of how Jesus is working right now in the world – with His Church and with Israel

Today Last Parable in Ch.13

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind, 48 which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, & cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing & gnashing of teeth."

Recall seen is moved v.36 house & disciples

Now this Parable is similar to the Parable of the wheat & the tares that we looked at already. V.24-30

A) Jesus interpreted that Parable for us – v.37-43

B) Jesus is the Sower who is planting – true Believers throughout the world { Wheat

1) Same time Satan is planting counterfeits – tares

His Goal is to Infiltrate & to Undermine the Kingdom

So the Parable of the Wheat and the tares had to do with the mixture in the Kingdom

A) This Parable is similar { The Difference is this – the tares were deliberately planted among the wheat by the enemy

B) Satan goal is to weaken the Power, the Purity and the witness of the Kingdom in the world

1) A deliberate attack

C) The Parable of the Dragnet is describing something more random

It describes how the ministry of the gospel goes out like a net –

A) Jesus told his disciples follow me fishers of men

B) So the gospel goes out like a net and gathers in those who really want to be saved –

1) **As well** as those who are just curious

C) **IN** the Church you have true and false believers

Jesus was already experiencing this in his Ministry

A) The crowds following him were made up of that mixture. –

B) Those who **really believed** but also { those who were **just curious**

C) There were those who **left all to follow Him** { those who were **there for the miracles – free lunch**

D) Those who **were sincere** and those who were simply **playing Church** – getting religious

E) Those who's hearts had **really been touched** and those who simply had an **emotional experience**

Same thing is true here: Easy to look around and think – Everyone in this crowd is really in love with Jesus { Worship

A) Not the case at all: Reminded often in counseling apptmnts –

B) Pp sit here Praise God – { There is a Problem – they come in – find out it is a **different story at home**

C) Abuse – Adultery – Drunkenness – Violence
Cussing out – It is Crazy !

D) PP who on the Surface can seem so sincere here at Church –

1) The way they run their business it is a completely different story – **Horror stories**

2) There is such a separation in pp's lives – between Church and the way they live { **There Shouldn't be**

E) The whole purpose and focus of being a part of Christ Kingdom is you want the King to rule and reign in every area of your life!

F) Being a real lover of Jesus is supposed to affect who you are at home / work/ relationships / how you do business – etc

So the Parable is revealing that there is always going to be a mixture in Christ Kingdom – Until the end of the age

A) That is when the Lord is going to let the angels – Separate – the wicked from the just.

B) Note There are only two types of pp in the world today

1)The wicked – and the just

C)It is believing in Jesus that makes a person **Just**

1)Justified by faith { Romans 5:1– God’s work in us!

D) Prior to that we were all wicked – enemies of God lost in our sin –

1)Granted some more wicked than others – but all wicked

There is a day coming when Jesus is going to allow the Angels to separate – wicked from the Just

A)Common Picture – see again {**Parable of the sheep in the goats** – those who are real believers from those who just looked like believers

B) **Teaches us two things here:** One this means you and I don’t need to be preoccupied with who is saved and who isn’t – **Sin sniffers – Christian Papparazzi**

C)Only God knows the heart –

1)Only God knows if a person is really saved and simply CARNAL – **given over to the flesh**

D)Or if a person is not saved at all and are at best deceived in thinking they are.

E)I don’t need to concern myself with that – I just need to preach the truth and encourage pp to live for Jesus

F)The day is coming – when we will all stand before God he will separate – true from the false

1)We will be surprised – who some of the phonies are

The 2nd thing that this teaches us is a reminder{ There is a day of Judgment coming & that the plight of those who are not saved is not pretty

Rev elation 20:12-15

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Here is how Jesus puts it here V.49

49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, 50 and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

A) Now we have seen this before – in the Parable of the tares – Says the same thing -

B) Jesus spoke a lot about HELL – more than heaven

C) Why? Real place / real pp go there! – He doesn't want anyone to perish – so He warned

D) We have to warn – We do a great disservice and untrue to the word if I avoided this subject

Hell is a real place – there is weeping and Gnashing of teeth

A) **Place of Outer darkness** – Can't see – but hear

Here the screams - weeping / wailing

B) **Place of full remembrance** – You will remember every opportunity you were given to respond to the gospel and rejected it { **Reason for Gnashing** – angry at themselves – why – idiot -

C) **Place of fire** { intense heat – but nothing burns

1) Constant torment

D) **Place that smells like burning sulfur** – rotten eggs

So pp are there- Can't see but they can smell rotten eggs/ they can hear – weeping wailing / can feel the heat – wish they would burn up –

A) They are weeping/ wailing/ Gnashing their teeth

B) But **Remember Jesus declared that hell was not made for man but for the devil and his angels**

1) Men Choose to go there by rejecting Jesus

C) Not really giving their hearts to Jesus –

D) That is why Jesus talked about – that is why we must talk about it – We need to warn

E) You are in that Place today – Not a believer

Not a true follower - **You need to repent** – turn from your sin / turn to the loving arms of Jesus today

Now after finishing the Parables – Jesus asks a question and gives some application.

51 Jesus said to them, "Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."

52 Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old."

Jesus wants His men to be like scribes{The Ministry of the Scribes started with Ezra { Noble

A)Only latter that it was corrupted

B)Here Jesus is speaking in the positive form in describing the scribe

C)Scribes were men trained in the word - - Men who interpreted their times by the word of God!

1)Men who found the answers to life's questions and problems in the word of God

D)Applying the old truths of God's word – which are timeless to the new situations in our culture today.

One of Satan's biggest lies is that everything is always changing – Culture Changes – so does truth

A)Today we live in a society where it is COOL – to question truth –

B)what is really true – what can we trust ?

C)Things are not always Changing – Gravity

1)Sun rises / sun sets - / A note / $2+2 = 4$

D)Those are just a few examples of timeless truths

And the God's word the Bible is made up of Timeless truths{ Men needs to be scribes – apply today

**A)Times are different – Just saw here in California
Legalize marriage union – Homosexual / Lesbian**

B) Times have changed – Not really – Homosexuality was rampant in the Roman world –

1)Jesus day and Paul's day { They said it was Sin!

C) Why am I bringing this up on Fathers' day?

D) More than ever the Church and the world needs men who will not be wishy washy –

1) Tonight **John the Baptist blowing in the wind**

Men who will be like Scribes – Stand for truth

Rightly interpret truth

E) Men who will seek to apply the old truths of scripture with a fresh sensitivity to the culture

F) Fathers who will teach their kids – **what the Bible says and Why.**

Pastor Rob – Aren't you getting a little Political here

A) No I am not – see this is not a Political issue

It is a Biblical one – Biblical standards are at stake

B) We in the Church need to stand for that – Vote

We need to sign Petitions – Use our voice

C) Listen: **I am not even seeking to pick on Homosexuality** - { This is about Sin in general

1) No different than those who commit adultery

D) Those who Fornicate – those who lie – those who cheat on taxes – those who steal

1) It is all sin that Jesus came to die for ! **Jesus loves**

E) Jesus wants to deliver from – Ruins – God's plan

Today in Canada it is considered a hate crime to call homosexuality a sin

A) One day it will be a crime to call anyone a sinner

B) When that happens and I get put in Jail – start an inside prison ministry – you can come visit me !

C) Men we need to be like scribes – Knowing the truth – **immersing ourselves in it!**

D) Standing in it – Modeling it

Men who will forsake the temptation to put all their focus on accumulating more stuff / possessions

A) The drug of this century – MORE -

B) Wealth and possessions can be intoxicating

1) But they don't satisfy

C) Perverbial thirst for more !

Talks over the last couple of weeks – with several different men – seeing the need to simplify

A) Get focused – that is what the scribe was all about

Focused on one thing – Gods' word

B) Men lets rise up ! – Lets commit ourselves a fresh and anew to the word

C) Who's heart is all about the kingdom – all about knowing Jesus – Knowing His word

D) Fathers that is what we need – God's model – for the Church – Father – a Husband

1) Provider / Protector – Source of wisdom and intergrity – strength and tenderness

E) Listen, if we are going to be those kind of men we need to be men of the word - -

1) If we are going to have God's heart instilled in us – it is only going to come as we search it out in the pages of the scripture

E) That is where Transformation takes place

2 Corinthians 3:18

18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Interesting that Matthew inserts something here in closing this chapter that illustrates what Jesus has been teaching in these parables

A) Read it on your own – Jist – Jesus leaves there and goes to home town area – Nazareth

B) They were blown away by his mighty words and his mighty works –

1) But they wouldn't commit themselves to Him

C) Too ordinary – We know His mom / dad bros

1) They made an excuse not to believe / to trust

The problem with many still today: Jesus is cool but not the only way – HE SAID HE WAS

A) Jesus is a good guy – but too narrow

B) Jesus said - Matthew 7:13-14

13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.