

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ
Kingdom Parables
Final Parable and Summary of all Kingdom Parables

Last time...Jesus taught 3 more Kingdom Parables...

6. Parable of the Treasure
7. Parable of the Pearl of great price
8. Parable of the Net

This time...a final parable about His disciples and a Summary of the Kingdom Parables

We will be in Matt 13

Matt 13

v51 Have ye understood...Yea:

The Lord has finished His teachings on the Kingdom Parables (8 in all)
So He asks a question every teacher asks – Do you understand all 8 parables?
After all, it was/is important that they/we understand, otherwise why teach?

Note: Jesus knew the answer, but the question is still worth asking...
for the sakes of the 12

They respond to the affirmative – Yes Lord!
Hmmmmm

It was given them to understand/know the mysteries of the kingdom of
heaven (v11)...did they now OR would they later?

So, they

1. did understand

Mark 4:34 when they were alone, he expounded all
things to his disciples (and they got it?)

2. did not understand but were too proud to admit it

Matt 16:5-12...v11, an application of Parable of Leaven

3. will understand...later

John 12:16 after John 20:22, who John 14:26, John 16:9
Acts 11:15-16

We 2 Peter 3:18 as we

- walk in faith and in the Spirit (believe more as our faith grows)
- mature (swallow our pride and surrender our will)
- make the best (harder, more costly) choices

Then, Jesus concludes His Kingdom teaching by teaching a final parable

v52 every scribe...householder...out of his treasure...new and old:

A scribe was a religious office in Israel...yet Jesus is speaking to the 12

So, in context, a scribe was a

- wise man learned in the Word of God
- teacher of the Word

Those who understand/believe the teachings of Jesus are

- wise, learned in the Word of God, having received His instruction
- to teach others what they know/understand...get the Word out

Such a one is like a householder/head of household, possessing valuable things
(of God; context is the kingdom of God), both new and old

Heb 3:1-6

Old: Moses

New: Jesus

All: God

They/We are to share the mysteries of God with others

- OT and NT...the entire counsel of God
(contrary to the opinion of some in a position of great influence)
Matt 5:17...fulfill ALL
Jesus is speaking before NT even was!
Acts 20:27...OT was the entire counsel!!!
- New Covenant
Jer 31:31-34 a Word the 12 had then
Matt 26:26-29
- new understanding (greater revelation) of old truths (from everlasting)

And...it will come at a cost at hands of those who believe neither old nor new

Matt 23:29-34

v53 finished these parables:

Having finished teaching about the kingdom of heaven/God in parables,
Jesus moved on

He has unfinished business the Father has given Him to do...
leading to the Cross and His resurrection

To review and summarize this very important teaching of Jesus Christ...v51a

Given that this is our 5th study in the Kingdom Parables, let's look at them as a whole and get "the Big Picture" (God's perspective) so that **we** do understand them and apply them to our lives

Foundation

Always a good place to start

Reason for teaching in parables

Matt 12:22-30

Matt 13:10-17

Jesus taught plainly the meaning of 2 parables

#1: Sower...4 different kinds of Soils

#3: Tares...bad seed sowed among good seed

The understanding He gives us from those parables are the keys to understanding all the parables
Mark 4:13

The Kingdom Parables

- are a blessing for whole-hearted believers, for given to them are to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven
- are a rebuke and a warning of judgment for
 - hard-hearted (unbelievers)
 - shallow-hearted (believers...until the heat comes)
 - worldly (believers...until the hooks of the world drag them back
2 Tim 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica
- conclude with an final parable of invitation/exhortation to those who believe to go share with others

Perspective #1

Within the context of the whole (all Kingdom Parables), Jesus taught 3 sets of “paired” parables, the same Kingdom message in pairs of Parables

- Value of the Kingdom:
 - #6: Treasure (v44)
 - #7: Pearl of great price (v45-46)
- Corruption of the Kingdom
 - #4: Mustard Seed (v31-32)...compromised
 - #5: Leaven (v33)...corrupt
- Judgment at the end of the world
 - #3: Tares (v24-30)
 - #8: Net (v47-50)

The over-arching Kingdom Parable is the first parable, the Parable of the Sower

v3-9	#2 (Seed) is an addendum to Soil #4
v18-23	Luke 8:15...bring forth fruit with patience

With the perspective of the 3 sets of paired parables, the Parable of the Sower speaks of 3 Soils are not fruitful...the Kingdom is undervalued in hearts that are **corrupt** and **compromised**

1 Soil is very fruitful...the Kingdom is as **valued** as they are by the King

Therefore, from the 3rd paired teachings of Judgment, what can we discern regarding

- Soil #1 (unbelief): judgment...
Tares in the field and bad fish in the net,
no entry in the Kingdom they undervalued
- Soil #2 (whither when heat is on): judgment...
World of greater value than the Kingdom of God
Tares (pretenders) in the field and bad fish in the net,
no entry in the Kingdom they undervalued
- Soil #3 (cares of the world and deceivableness of riches): judgment...
World of greater value than the Kingdom of God
Tares (pretenders) in the field and bad fish in the net,
no entry in the Kingdom they undervalued
- Soil #4 (fruitful, with addendum of Parable of the Seed):
entry into the Kingdom they value

Perspective #2

based on Value of the Kingdom of God

Value (His preeminent value...He gave everything, He gave Himself):

#6: Treasure

#7: Pearl

Value (theirs of Him...they give everything, they give themselves):

#1d: Sower, good soil

#2: Seed

#3: Tares...wheat in the field

#8 Net...good fish

No Value (theirs of Him...they hold out on Him, they keep for themselves):

#1a: Sower, wayside

#1b: Sower, shallow soil

#1c: Sower, thorny soil

#4: Mustard Seed...compromise

#5: Leaven...corruption

#3: Tares...tares in the field

#8: Net...bad fish

Judgment (separation of value/good from no value/bad at the end of the world):

#3: Tares

#8: Net

Application

Viewing from God's perspective (#1 and #2), let's personally

- examine ourselves

v9 (after Parable of Sower)

Mark 4:21-24 (after explanation of Parable of Sower)...take heed WHAT hear
(guard your "ear gate")

Luke 8:18 Take heed therefore HOW ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him
 shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken
 even that which he seemeth to have
 (guard your heart and mind...hear believing, not doubting)

v51-52 (after all Kingdom Parables)

- ask the tough questions

Do I value Jesus Christ and His Kingdom as He does me?

Am I good soil, wheat, good fish?

Do I value the world/myself more than I do Jesus Christ and His Kingdom?

Am I wayside, shallow soil, thorny soil, tares, bad fish

Am I leaven?

Am I part of a Mustard Tree?

Truly, truly: Who has ears to hear, let him hear