

The Kingdom Prospectus Matthew 13

I. Teaching in Parables

- Note the context – 13:1-2
Response to His teaching was mixed
In Matt. 11-12 – doubt, dissatisfaction, faith
Open conflict, rejection, determination to kill
It is the same day – 13:1
- Jesus & Parable of the Sower – 3-9
Compares various responses to sowing seed
Seed was sown by broadcasting
Different soils respond differently
Some soil is hard, like the path through a field - 4
This seed is usually eaten by the birds
Some soil is shallow – little topsoil – 5-6
Springs up but cannot develop root
With the hot sun the plant withers away
Some soil is thorn infested – 7
Thorns choked out the plants
Some seed fell on good soil – 8
This produced fruit in different measures
Jesus encourages hearers to listen – 9
Parables make an important point
Give careful attention to the lesson
- He explains the parable – 18
When seed is scattered it falls on different soils
- Hard soil of paths – birds snatch it - 19
Some hear the word – do not believe
Like birds, Satan snatches it away
- Stony ground – little top-soil – 20-21
Responds initially but no root – depth
Troubles of life overwhelms him
- Thorny ground – 22
Hears but other things choke out the word
- Good ground – 23
Respond in faith to the word sown
Bear fruit in various measures

II. Why Parables? – 13:10-17

- Parables teach spiritual truth – 10-11
Truth concerning Kingdom of Heaven
This truth must be received by faith
- As we believe, God reveals more – 12
Faith grows as we respond to His Word
- Those who reject lose – 12
What was given in O.T. is hidden to them
- This fulfills prophecy of Isaiah – 13-15
This is the tragedy of unbelief
- Kingdom truth must be believed – 16-17

III. Kingdom Parables – 13:24-50

- Six parables speak of the Kingdom

- There are things that could deter
You must invest in Kingdom by faith
- These six parables are couplets
Jesus uses 2 analogies to make same point
 - First & last of these 6 parables
Parable of wheat and tares – 24-30
Parable of the dragnet – 47-50
Both speak of the presence of evil
One speaks to farmers, other to fishermen
Jesus explains wheat & tares – 36-43
He sows the good seed in the world – 36-37
The good seed are children of the kingdom – 38
Satan sows the tares among the wheat – 38-39
Tares are children of the wicked one – 38
Harvest is the end of the age – 39-40
The reapers are God's angels
They will gather tares for burning
Don't let presence of evil deter you – 41-43
Lord will cast out evil & righteous will prevail
Parable of drag-net gives same message – 47-50
Repeated for emphasis – Don't miss it
A large fishing net gathers all kinds of fish
You gather the good into vessels to keep
You throw the bad away
The same is true with the kingdom
Angels will come & separate just from wicked
Wicked will be cast into the fire
 - Second & Third parables – 31-35
Don't be deterred by small beginnings
Consider the mustard seed – 31-32
Smallest of seeds but grows to large bush
Consider the leaven in dough – 33-35
A small beginning but a great ending
We must invest now by faith
Believe what Jesus says about His kingdom
 - Fourth & fifth parables – 44-46
The treasure found in a field – 44
Treasure is worth selling everything else
The merchant & the pearl
Worth selling everything else you have
Kingdom of heaven is worth everything

IV. Response to the King – 13:51-58

- Jesus challenges His disciples – 51-52
Do you understand these kingdom truths?
A wise scribe who understands applies it
- Not all will respond in faith – 53-57
Rejected in Nazareth – home town
They were astonished at His teaching – 54
But deterred by their perception of Him - 55-56
No further miracles because of unbelief

