



Go for God!

The Gospel According To MATTHEW

Chapter 13:44-58

“Let’s Learn the Parables of the Kingdom” (Part 3)

Introduction: Chapter 13 is a series of seven parables. The word parable means, “*to cast alongside.*” A parable is an *earthly saying with a heavenly meaning.* These parables are also known as *the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.* The order of the parables are as follows: (1) *The parable of the sower* (v1-23); (2) *The parable of the tares among the wheat* (v24-30); (3) *The parable of the mustard seed* (v31-32); (4) *The parable of leaven* (v33-43); (5) *The parable of hidden treasure* (v44); (6) *The parable of the pearl of great price* (v45-46); (7) *The parable of the dragnet* (v47-51).

> Parable #5 - *The Parable of the Hidden Treasure* (v44)

- **Key phrase:** *The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field* - It was common practice for people in those days to take their treasures and bury them in their field for safe keeping.

- *The field* is the world, the *treasure* is Israel according to Exodus 19:5 - *Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.* (Also Deut. 7:6; Ps. 135:4). The man is the Lord Jesus who gave everything to purchase the field (the world) to get the treasure (Israel).

- God the Father gave all! - John 3:16 - *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

- JESUS gave His ALL for YOU! - John 15:13 - *Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.*

- Why? For the joy of saving people/Israel from their sins and giving them a brand-new life! - Hebrews 12:1-2 - *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

> Parable #6 - *The Parable of the Pearl of Great Price* (v45-46)

- **Key phrase:** *The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price sold all that he had and bought it.*

- The *merchant* is Jesus and the *pearl* is the church. Again, Jesus gave His all for this pearl!

- A pearl is formed when a grain of sand (or other irritating substance) gets stuck between the oyster's mantle and shell, the oyster secrets nacre. This shiny substance coats the grain of sand, and over the years, forms a lustrous pearl.

- Listen to this great analogy as put forth by J. Vernon McGee, “Christ came to this earth as the merchant-man. He saw man in sin, and He took man’s sin and bore it in His own body. Our sin was an intrusion upon Him—it was that foreign matter. And He was made sin for us.

- As someone has put it, I got into the heart of Christ by a spear wound. Christ “. . .*was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities . . .*” (Isa. 53:5). Notice Christ’s response to the sinner. He puts around us His own righteousness. He covers us with His own white robe of righteousness. “. . .*we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus . . .*” (Eph 2:10).” (Insight: Jesus sold all for all turn to Revelation Ch. 5.)

> Parable #7 - The Parable of the Dragnet (v47-52)

- Here the net is cast into the sea of humanity and collects both *good and bad fish*.

- The good are those who have ask Jesus Christ to be their Lord and Savior, in John 5:26-30 - *For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.*

- *“The wicked are separated from the just”* Who are the just? Romans 5:1-2 -*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

- Matthew 24:1-31 tells us when the *end of the age* will come; and Matthew 25:31-46 explains a separating of *sheep and goats*. The bad fish, goats, tares, are cast into the lake of fire (commonly called hell) (Rev.19:20; 20:10, 14; 21:8).

(v52) *Every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven (disciples of Christ) is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.*

- The New Covenant was concealed in the Old Covenant and the Old Covenant was revealed in the New Covenant. The new agreement God has made with mankind is based on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- The concept of a new covenant originated with the promise of the prophet Jeremiah that God would accomplish for His people what the old covenant had failed to do (Jer 31:31).

- Under this new covenant, God would write His Law on human hearts. This promised action suggested a new level of obedience, a new knowledge of the Lord, and a new forgiveness of sin.

- The New Testament, which itself means *“new covenant,”* interprets the work of Jesus Christ as bringing this promised new covenant into being.

- In Luke 22:20, when Jesus ate the Passover meal at the Last Supper with His disciples, He spoke of the cup as *“the new covenant in My blood.”*

- The new covenant accomplished what the old could not: removal of sin and cleansing of the conscience (Heb 10:2,22). The work of Jesus Christ on the cross thus makes the old covenant *“obsolete”* (Heb 8:13) and fulfills the promise of the prophet Jeremiah. (from Nelson's Bible Dictionary)

(v53-56) Here we see that Jesus had brothers and sisters, which means Mary was not a perpetual virgin, but had a romantic marriage with her husband Joseph.

(v57-58) The tragedy of unbelief! – Revelation 21:1-8

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