

Matthew 13:1-52

Gospel of the Messiah & His Kingdom Come

TRAINING THE DISCIPLES

Section Bookends (13:10-11 / 13:51-52)

^{13:10-11} Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?"

¹¹ And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

^{13:51-52} "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Jesus has been rejected by the nation of Israel. His offer of the Messianic Kingdom has been withdrawn from that generation. Through the following parables Jesus reveals the nature of the *interim Kingdom*. He is preparing His disciples for their role in interim Kingdom.

The parables serve a second purpose: they hide truth. Those Jews who rejected the truth Jesus previously revealed will not understand the parables.

"There Will Be Four Basic Responses To Your Preaching" (13:1-23)

^{13:18-19} "Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path.



The "word of the Kingdom" is everything about being a citizen in God's Kingdom beginning with how to be reconciled to God through faith in Jesus, to learning how to live the new Spirit-indwelt life of a child of God, to impacting others as a Spirit-gifted servant of God.

As the disciples move through the world preaching the "word of the Kingdom", Jesus shapes their expectations that there will be four basic responses.



“You Sow the Word, I’ll Take Care of the Weeds” (13:24-30 / 13:36-43 / 13:47-50)

^{113:28-29} He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them.'

The interim Kingdom of God encompasses the entire world. As disciples preach the word, some hearers will believe; many will not. Jesus directs His disciples to stay focused on preaching the word. When He returns, Jesus will sort out unbelievers from believers as part of establishing His Messianic Kingdom.

“Be Patient, the Kingdom Will Start Small, But It Will Grow” (13:31-35)

^{13:32} It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."



“The Word You Preach is the Most Important Message in All the World” (13:44-46)

^{13:45-46} "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it."

You are living in the interim Kingdom. These parables apply to you. Patiently share the Word of the Kingdom. Don't be discouraged that not everyone will receive the Word. It is still the most important message in all the world. Your job is to share it; Jesus will sort out believers from unbelievers when He returns.

NEWS & NEEDS

What's Happening at Grace:

Business Meeting: November 2, 4:00 pm

New Group Starting! FATHERS Group every other Thursday 6-7:30 pm. Next Meeting Nov 6..

Baptism Class: November 9, 10 am, Room 1. No Sign Ups Required!

FIND DETAILS ON THE APP!

Opportunities to Serve:

VOM: Combs/hair picks of all sizes

The Security Team is looking for a few volunteers! Must be over 21. Text Jeff McEntee at (760) 822-6785.