

## Matthew 13:24-52 Kingdom of Heaven Parables

### Wheat and Tares

<sup>24</sup> Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup> but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. <sup>26</sup> But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. <sup>27</sup> So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' <sup>28</sup> "He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' <sup>29</sup> "But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' "

### Mustard Seed

<sup>31</sup> Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, <sup>32</sup> which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches."

### Leaven

<sup>33</sup> Another parable He spoke to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

### Parables Fulfill Prophecy

<sup>34</sup> All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them, <sup>35</sup> that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:

"I will open My mouth in parables;  
I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world."

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." <sup>37</sup> He answered and said to them:

"He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. <sup>39</sup> The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. <sup>40</sup> Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, <sup>42</sup> and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

### Hidden Treasure

<sup>44</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

### Pearl of Great Price

**45** "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, **46** who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

### Dragnet

**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, **50** and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth." **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." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- † Most of the Parables of Jesus pertained to aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven, Kingdom of God, and began with the words, "**The Kingdom of Heaven is like.**" [Matthew 13:24]

### Parables Fulfill Prophecy

- † Reason for Parables is to fulfill prophecy. [Matthew 13:34-35]
  - I will open my mouth in a parable;
  - I will utter dark sayings of old. [Psalm 78:2]
- † After the parables of Wheat and Tares, Mustard Seed, and Leaven, Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house.
- † The disciples asked for the explanation of the Wheat and Tares.
- † Jesus gave the explanation, and the rest of the parables, to his disciples. [Matthew 13:36-37]

### Wheat and Tares [Matthew 13:24-30]

#### † **The Kingdom of Heaven is like:**

- † A man sowed seed in his field, the enemy sowed tares.
  - ◊ The wheat sprouted and produced a crop.
  - ◊ The tares also appeared among the wheat.
  - ◊ The servants asked what to do.
  - ◊ The master commanded that they be allowed to grow together until the harvest to prevent loss of the wheat that might otherwise be uprooted.
  - ◊ At time of harvest, the tares will be removed from the wheat and **burned with fire**, the wheat will be gathered into the barn.

### Wheat and Tares Explained [Matthew 13:37-43]

- † Jesus explained the parable of the Wheat and Tares:

#### † **The Kingdom of Heaven is like:**

- ◊ He Who sows the wheat is the Son of Man. [Matthew 13:37]
- ◊ The field is the World. [Matthew 13:38]
- ◊ The good seeds are the Sons of the Kingdom. [Matthew 13:38]
- ◊ The tares are the sons of the wicked one. [Matthew 13:38]
- ◊ The enemy who sowed them is the devil. [Matthew 13:39]
- ◊ The harvest is at the end of the age. [Matthew 13:39]
- ◊ The reapers are the angels. [Matthew 13:39]
- ◊ At the end of this age, and entering the Kingdom of Heaven, the Son of Man will send out His angels. [Matthew 13:40-41]

- ◊ They will gather **out of His Kingdom all things that offend**, and **those who practice lawlessness**, and will cast them into the **furnace of fire**, there will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. [\[Matthew 13:41-42\]](#)
- ◊ Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. [\[Matthew 13:43\]](#)
- ◊ He who has ears to hear, let him hear. [\[Matthew 13:43\]](#)
- ◊ That remained the statement throughout the Church age, and the book of Revelation. [\[Matthew 11:15, 13:9-17, 43, Mark 4:9, 23, 7:16, 8:18, Luke 8:8, 14:35, Acts 28:27, Romans 11:8, Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29, 3:6, 13, 22, 13:9\]](#)
  
- † God will allow the righteous and the unrighteous to dwell on the earth together until time to establish His Kingdom, the thousand year reign of Christ.
- † After the Great Tribulation is over, the Judgment Seat of Christ will be set up, all the world will be brought before Him, and He will separate the good from the bad.
  - ◊ All the wicked, and all things that offend God, will be cast into the **Lake of Fire**, as He says: [\[Matthew 13:40-42\]](#)
  - ◊ To those on His right, "Come you blessed of the Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the earth. [\[Matthew 25:34\]](#)
  - ◊ Then the Righteous will shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. [\[Matthew 13:43\]](#)
  - ◊ Then to those on the left, "Depart from Me you cursed, into **Everlasting Fire** prepared for Satan and his angels." [\[Matthew 25:41\]](#)
  - ◊ And the wicked will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. [\[Matthew 25:46\]](#)
- † As is always the way with God, He desires everyone to be free to choose for himself whether to listen to the message and seek understanding, or to walk away and ignore it.
  - ◊ He that has ears to hear, let him hear. [\[Matthew 13:43\]](#)
  - ◊ The choice is yours, the result is His.
- † He who has ears to hear, let him hear. [\[Matthew 13:9\]](#)
  - ◊ Not everyone is able or willing to accept the truth revealed. [\[Matthew 11:14\]](#)
  - ◊ That remained the statement throughout the Church age, and the book of Revelation. [\[Matthew 11:15, 13:9-17, 43, Mark 4:9, 23, 7:16, 8:18, Luke 8:8, 14:35, Acts 28:27, Romans 11:8, Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29, 3:6, 13, 22, 13:9\]](#)

### Mustard Seed [\[Matthew 13:31-32, Luke 13:18-19\]](#)

<sup>31</sup> Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "**The kingdom of heaven is like** a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, <sup>32</sup> which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches."

### Leaven [\[Matthew 13:33, Luke 13:20-21\]](#)

<sup>33</sup> Another parable He spoke to them: "**The kingdom of heaven is like** leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

- † Both of these parables are the same aspect of the Kingdom of Heaven.
  - ◊ It started small, Jesus and the twelve disciples.
  - ◊ It has grown to fill the earth with the message of the Kingdom of Heaven in the Gospel of Jesus, God's way into the Kingdom. The present day Church and all its branches are in every corner of the earth and still growing.

### Hidden Treasure [Matthew 13:44]

**44** "Again, **the kingdom of heaven is like** treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

### Pearl of Great Price [Matthew 13:45]

**45** "Again, **the kingdom of heaven is like** a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, **46** who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

- † These two parables are again the same. They speak of the great value of the Kingdom of Heaven.
- † The Kingdom is like Hidden Treasure, and like a Pearl of Great Price.
  - ◇ Its value is so great, that it is worth all anyone has, just to be allowed to enter.

### Dragnet [Matthew 13:47-50]

**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, **50** and cast them into the **furnace of fire**. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth." **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."

- † **The kingdom of heaven is like** a dragnet that was cast into the sea. [Matthew 13:47-50]
- † Again **the Kingdom is like**, refers to the aspect of the separation of the good from the bad.
  - ◇ This is the most common theme of the parables on aspects of The Kingdom of Heaven.
  - ◇ It thus reflects the most important aspect of the Kingdom of Heaven message.
- † At the End of the Age, the wicked will be separated from the just.
  - ◇ The wicked will be **cast into the fire**. This is a reference to the **Lake of fire** which is the eternal abode of the wicked of all ages.
  - ◇ The terribleness of the **Lake of Fire** is so severe, it deserves all the warnings spoken in the Bible, from the first to the end.
  - ◇ Even with all the warnings God has provided for the wicked, there are still a massive multitude that will refuse to accept the warning and thus fill the **Lake of Fire** with the damned.
- † Jesus' statement ever proves true:
  - "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. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." [Matthew 7:13-14]
- † This separation will take place at the Judgment Seat of Christ, at the beginning of the **Kingdom of Heaven**, when Jesus welcomes the Saints into the Kingdom, and dismisses the wicked into the **Eternal Fire**. [Malachi 3:1-5, 18, Isaiah 1:24-31, Ezekiel 20:33-38, Matthew 3:10-12, 7:13-23, 13:24-30, 36-43, 16:27, 22:1-14, 25:14-30, 31-46, 47-48, 49-50, 24:45-51, Luke 3:16-17, 12:35-48, 13:23-30, Romans 2:3-6, 14:10-12, 2 Corinthians 5:10, 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10, 2 Timothy 4:1, Revelation 11:16-18, 22:12]
- † At the end of the Age, refers to the end of the dispensation of man's rule over the earth and the beginning of God's rule over all the earth.

- † The Gospel is available everywhere, but the people who seek out the truth in it are very few, even in the Churches of the world.

Oh, that they were wise, that they understood this, That they would consider their latter end! [\[Deuteronomy 32:19\]](#)

"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to **every one** according to his work. " [\[Revelation 22:12\]](#)

**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." [\[Matthew 13:52\]](#)

- † Everyone who is instructed and understands the message of the Kingdom of Heaven is able to bring out from both the Old Testament and the New Testament the accurate understanding of the message.
- ◇ He is able to take the Scriptures on the subject and apply it to understanding as dealing with things contemporary with his time so the hearer may best understand.
- ◇ The Old sets the foundation for the New, the New gives the understanding of the Old.