

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

1. PARABLES.

1. ***Why speak in parables?*** (Mat 13:10 KJV) And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?
2. ***For you to know the mysteries of the kingdom.*** (Mat 13:11 KJV) He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. (Mat 13:12 KJV) For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. (Mat 13:13 KJV) Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. (Mat 13:14 KJV) And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: (Mat 13:15 KJV) For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
3. ***Blessed are your eyes.*** (Mat 13:16 KJV) But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. (Mat 13:17 KJV) For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.
4. ***I will open my mouth in parables.***
 1. (Mat 13:34 KJV) All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: (Mat 13:35 KJV) That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.
 2. (Mark 4:33 KJV) And with many such parables spake he the word unto them, as they were able to hear it. (Mark 4:34 KJV) But without a parable spake he not unto them:
5. ***Secret things shall be revealed.***
 1. (Mark 4:34b) A...and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.@
 2. (Luke 8:17 KJV) For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad.
 3. (Deu 29:29 KJV) The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

2. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE MUSTARD SEED.

1. ***Scripture.*** (Mat 13:31 KJV) Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and

sowed in his field: (Mat 13:32 KJV) Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.

2. ***Starts out in seed form; the final product is not what appears at the present.***
 1. Starts out as small sphere of influence, but will become all encompassing.
 2. Present kingdom vs. Eternal kingdom.
 3. Has power to drastically reproduce itself.
 4. Becomes a great tree, which is a refuge.
3. ***Must be sown; then wait for the harvest. (Patience).***
 1. (James 5:7 KJV) Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.
 2. (Heb 6:12 KJV) That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.
 3. (Heb 10:36 KJV) For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

3. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE LEAVEN.

1. ***Scripture.*** (Mat 13:33 KJV) Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.
2. ***Ability to influence environment.***
 1. Can be positive or negative.
 2. A little leaven leavens the whole lump. (1 Cor 5:6 KJV) Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? (1 Cor 5:7 KJV) Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: (1 Cor 5:8 KJV) Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
3. ***Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees.***
 1. (Mat 16:6 KJV) Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.
 2. (Mat 16:11 KJV) How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? (Mat 16:12 KJV) Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.
4. ***God wants our leaven to represent good influence.***
 1. Till the whole is leavened.
 2. We are to be a difference; active, not passive.
 3. Reverse peer pressure.
 4. We are the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

4. THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE A HID TREASURE.

1. **Scripture.** (Mat 13:44 KJV) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.
2. **First, the kingdom is identified as a treasure.**
 1. (Mat 6:21 KJV) For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
 2. (2 Cor 4:7 KJV) But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.
3. **It is hid (in a field); must be found. (Stumbled upon?)**
4. **When found, guarded until it is obtained.**
5. **Treasure redeemed by purchasing the field.**
 1. Man sells all he has in order to purchase field with the treasure.
 2. Jesus purchase the world with his blood that he might redeem us, the treasure.

5. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE A MERCHANT.

1. **Seeking goodly pearls (was seeking).**
 1. (Luke 11:10 KJV) For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
 2. (Prov 8:17 KJV) I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.
 3. (Jer 29:13 KJV) And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.
2. **Total commitment. When found one costly pearl, sold all to buy it.**

6. THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE A NET.

1. **Scripture.** (Mat 13:47 KJV) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:
2. **Net represents gathering instrument.**
 1. (Mat 4:19 KJV) And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. (Mat 4:20 KJV) And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.
 2. (Luke 5:4 KJV) Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. (Luke 5:5 KJV) And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. (Luke 5:6 KJV) And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.
3. **Sea represents masses of people.**
4. **No distinction made in reaching all--gathered good and bad. Separation comes later.**

7. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE A KING PREPARING A FEAST.

1. **Invitation rejected.** (Mat 22:1 KJV) And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, (Mat 22:2 KJV) The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, (Mat 22:3 KJV) And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. (Mat 22:4 KJV) Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. (Mat 22:5 KJV) But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: (Mat 22:6 KJV) And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. (Mat 22:7 KJV) But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.
2. **Go into highways and hedges.** (Mat 22:8 KJV) Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. (Mat 22:9 KJV) Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. (Mat 22:10 KJV) So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.
3. **There will be a final separation.**
 1. (Mat 22:11 KJV) And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: (Mat 22:12 KJV) And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. (Mat 22:13 KJV) Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (Mat 22:14 KJV) For many are called, but few are chosen.
 2. (Mat 13:48 KJV) Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. (Mat 13:49 KJV) So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, (Mat 13:50 KJV) And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.
 3. Let both grow until the harvest. (Mat 13:30 KJV) Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

8. SEEKING THAT WHICH IS LOST.

1. **The lost sheep.** (Luke 15:3 KJV) And he spake this parable unto them, saying, (Luke 15:4 KJV) What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? (Luke 15:5 KJV) And when he hath found it, he layeth it

on his shoulders, rejoicing. (Luke 15:6 KJV) And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. (Luke 15:7 KJV) I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

2. ***The lost coin.*** (Luke 15:8 KJV) Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? (Luke 15:9 KJV) And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. (Luke 15:10 KJV) Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

9. **THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS MARKED BY HUMILITY.** (Luke 14:7 KJV) And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them, (Luke 14:8 KJV) When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him; (Luke 14:9 KJV) And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room. (Luke 14:10 KJV) But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. (Luke 14:11 KJV) For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.