

Parables of the Kingdom: Cycle Three
Matthew 13:44-52 / May 16, 2020

Cycle One (13:1-23)

- Presentation of the Parable of the Soils (#1) (13:1-9)
- Purpose of the Parables (13:10-16)
- Explanation of the Parable (Soil) (13:18-23)

Cycle Two (13:24-43)

- Presentation of the Parable of Weeds (#2), Mustard Seed (#3), Leaven (#4) (13:24-33)
- Purpose of the Parables (13:34-35)
- Explanation of the Parable (Weeds) (13:36-43)

Cycle Three (13:44-52)

- Presentation of the Parable of Treasure (#5), Pearl (#6), Net (#7) (13:44-48)
- Explanation of the Parable (Net) (13:49-50)
- Purpose of the Parables (13:51-52)

Cycle Three (13:44-52)

A) Presentation of the Parables. (13:44-48)

1. The Parable of the Hidden Treasure: Radical Discipleship (13:44)

- “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up.
- Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and
- buys that field.

2. The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value: Radical Discipleship (13:45-46)

- “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value,
- went and sold all that he had and
- bought it.

Rich Young Ruler: The Anthesis of the Parables of the Great Treasure and Great Pearl

And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’”

And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.”

When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”

But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich.

Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, “How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”

Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?”

But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

And Peter said, “See, we have left our homes and followed you.”

And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life.” (Luke 18:18-30)

3. The Parable of the Net: Final Judgement (13:47-48)

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad.

B) Explanation of The Parable of the Net (13:49-50)

So it will be at the end of the age.

The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace.

In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

A¹) Purpose of the Parables: Understanding for the Disciples (13:51-52)

“Have you understood all these things?”

They said to him, “Yes.”

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.”

Process of Training for the Kingdom

FISHERS OF MEN: While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. (Matthew 4:18-22)

TWELVE SENT OUT: These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. (Matthew 10:5-8)

MAKE DISCIPLES: Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:16-20)

FEED MY SHEEP: When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.” (John 21:15-19)

SHEPHERD THE FLOCK: So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. (1 Peter 5:1-4)

TEACH OTHER FAITHFUL ONES: You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. 3 Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 2:1-3)

Conclusion: Result of Teaching in Parables (13:53-58)

And when Jesus had finished these parables, he went away from there, and

- A)** coming to his hometown he taught them in their synagogue,
- B)** so that they were astonished, and said, “Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works?
- C)** Is not this the carpenter's son?
- C¹)** Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?
And are not all his sisters with us?
- B¹)** Where then did this man get all these things?”
- A)** And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household.” And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.