

Sunday November 08, 2009 The Kingdom of God Part 5 : Kingdom Parables

Review of the main points covered so far.

Let us begin to live and operate out of a "Kingdom of God" perspective – where everything you do is an extension of the King's domain here on earth – His rule being released in you and through you.

Kingdom Culture

Today

Kingdom Parables

(or KINGDOM MYSTERIES UNVEILED)

Parables of the Kingdom Reveal the Mysteries of the Kingdom

John 3:9-13

- 9 Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?"
- 10 Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things?
- 11 Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness.
- 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?
- 13 No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven.

Jesus used parables to teach us heavenly things - to unveil mysteries of the Kingdom which we needed to know.

Matthew 13:10-17

- 10 And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?"
- 11 He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.
- 12 For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.
- 13 Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.
- 14 And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'HEARING YOU WILL HEAR AND SHALL NOT UNDERSTAND, AND SEEING YOU WILL SEE AND NOT PERCEIVE;
- 15 FOR THE HEARTS OF THIS PEOPLE HAVE GROWN DULL. THEIR EARS ARE HARD OF HEARING, AND THEIR EYES THEY HAVE CLOSED, LEST THEY SHOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES AND HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, LEST THEY SHOULD UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEARTS AND TURN, SO THAT I SHOULD HEAL THEM.'
- 16 But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear;
- 17 for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

The disciples had been graced by God with "eyes that could see and ears that could hear" and hence understand the mysteries of the Kingdom, However, the people in the crowds had hearts that were dull, eyes that could not see and ears that could not hear. Jesus therefore used parables, stories from every day life to communicate mysteries (hidden truth) of the Kingdom of God.



Matthew 13:34,35

34 All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them.

35 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."

We have already looked at a few parables in earlier sections.

Here are other parables:

--- THE KING'S WORD: PRIMARY MEANS OF OPERATION --

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: THE SOWER AND THE WORD OF THE KINGDOM

Matthew 13:18-23

18 "Therefore hear the parable of the sower:

19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

---- THE END OF THE AGE -----

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: THE GOOD SEED AND THE TARES

Matthew 13:24-43

24 Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field;

Mat 13:25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.

Mat 13:26 But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared.

Mat 13:27 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?'

Mat 13:28 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?'

Mat 13:29 But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.

Mat 13:30 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." ' "

Mat 13:36 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."

Mat 13:37 He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.

Mat 13:38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one.

Mat 13:39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels.

Mat 13:40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age.

Mat 13:41 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,

Mat 13:42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Mat 13:43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!



PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: THE DRAGNET

Mat 13:47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind,

Mat 13:48 which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away.

Mat 13:49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just,

Mat 13:50 and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

--- THE PERVASIVE NATURE OF THE KINGDOM ----

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: THE MUSTARD SEED

Matthew 13:31 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,

Mat 13:32 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."

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: THE LEAVEN

Matthew 13:33 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."

--- THE VALUE OF THE KINGDOM ----

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: TREASURE IN A FIELD

Matthew 13:44 "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.

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

Matthew 13:45.46

- 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.

-- TEACHINGS OF THE KINGDOM --

Matthew 13:51-53

- 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."
- 53 Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these parables, that He departed from there.

-- PRESENT STEWARDSHIP AND FUTURE AUTHORITY --

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: STEWARDSHIP AND AUTHORITY

Luke 19:11-27

- 11 Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately.
- 12 Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.
- 13 So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'
- 14 But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.'
- 15 "And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.
- 16 Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.'
- 17 And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'
- 18 And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.'
- 19 Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'



- 20 "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief. 21 For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'
- 22 And he said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow.
- 23 Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?'
- 24 "And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.' 25 (But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.')
- 26 For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.
- 27 But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.' "

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION

LIFE GROUP ACTIVITY

[to be decided]

SALVATION CALL

Other Stories: The Unjust Steward The Widow Luke 17 The Prodigal Son Luke 15





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