

The Kingdom Parables, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 13.
- B. This chapter is the analysis of the church age from Jesus' perspective.
- C. Matthew has presented Jesus Christ as king.

II. The kingdom period is a mystery. (Zechariah 12:10, Psalm 11, Isaiah 53, Zechariah 14:4)

- A. The king would be rejected and resurrected.
- B. The people would mourn.
- C. The people would receive salvation.
- D. The king would return to reign.
- E. The time between the refusal of the king and the reception king is the period of mystery, which Jesus speaks of in Matthew 13.

III. The plan.

- A. The plan was to speak in parables.
- B. A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.
- C. Kingdom parables.
- D. The parable of the wheat and the tares: the true and the false will live side by side in the church during the kingdom age.
- E. The parable of the mustard seed: the kingdom will begin small but grow worldwide.
- F. The parable of the leaven: there will be an evil influence in the church during this age.
- G. The parable of the hidden treasure: many will stumble on the kingdom almost by accident.
- H. The parable of the pearl: many will spend a great amount of time seeking the truth without finding it.

I. An unexplained parable is an impossible riddle. (Mark 4:10)

IV. The purpose.

A. The one who has some knowledge will be given more.

B. No man is static--he either gains in truth or loses it.

C. Jesus spoke in parables so that willful rejection becomes judicious rejection.

D. The Jews fulfilled the prophesy that they would no longer be able to hear or be converted. (Isaiah 6)

E. Parables are a judgment on unbelief. (I Corinthians 14:21, Mark 4:34, Matthew 15)

F. Parables conceal and reveal at the same time.

V. The promise: everything is on schedule. (I Chronicles 29:30)

VI. Lessons.

A. Truth is only available to people who are available and taught by God.

B. A person does not stay in the same place regarding truth.

C. God's plan is on schedule.

Application questions:

1. What is the believer's responsibility toward truth who can understand the truth of the parable? Explain.

2. What is the significance of the mystery of parables concerning those who did not accept Jesus?

3. How does Jesus' speaking in parables demonstrate that God's redemptive plan is on schedule?
