



PARABLES

Parables of the Kingdom

Matthew 13

Continued, Lesson 2

Introduction

- We are now moving into another teaching section in Matthew
- Consider Jesus' teaching methods: questions, parables, debate with dilemma, quotations from OT, situation provides context for lesson
- Essential nature of kingdom explored
- Purpose of parables revealed

Setting

- Matthew, Mark & Luke have their own versions of the kingdom parables (rich study here!)
- 3rd & central discourse of Matthew's 5 discourses
- Jesus is trying to get his disciples to be more receptive to nature of the kingdom
- Intervening section on purpose of the parables



“...We encounter the mysterious sovereignty of God, who accomplishes his will without at any time violating a person’s freedom of choice or the responsibility that goes with it.”

...A B L L

“And parables function similarly in such a dual manner. For those who have responded positively to Jesus’ proclamation of the kingdom the parables convey further insight and knowledge.”

PARABLES

“But for those who have rejected Jesus and his message, the parables have the effect of only darkening the subject further. Therefore, belief and commitment lead to further knowledge, while unbelief leads to further ignorance.”

PARABLES

Hagner, Donald A. (2000).
Matthews Parables of the
Kingdom (Matthew 13:1-52).
In Richard N. Longnecker
(Ed.), *The Challenge of Jesus'
Parables* (pp. 102-124). Grand
Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans,
Publishing Company.

PARABLES

- The parable itself
- Disciples question
- Jesus' reply
- Prophecy from Isaiah 6:9-10

PARABLE

Jesus' Interpretation of His Parable

- Listen (Command—"Hear") to what it means
- Hearing, not understanding nor comprehending
- Evil One snatches away (see John 10:12)



Specific Kinds of Hearts

- Path—heart hardened, unreceptive
- Rocky places—immediate joyful reception—no root, cannot withstand tribulation or persecution
- Thorns—hear, but because of cares of this world/anxieties & deceitfulness of riches—choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful
- Good soil—hearing, understanding and brings forth good fruit.

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