

Parables of the Kingdom

Volume 1

Maurice Barratt



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Preface

Using the Media

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

1 Corinthians 15:50

Many years ago whilst reading John Wesley's journals I came upon the passage where he states that he computed there were 8,000,000 people living in Great Britain (he lived in the 1700s). He travelled on horseback, or carriage, preaching an average of five times each day for 60 years and brought a transformation of spirituality into the lives of those in Great Britain. Because of

this, England came back from the brink of civil war according to many secular historians.

As I was reading this passage God really impressed me that this process of events could not be repeated in our present situation where the population of Great Britain is over 668,000,000.

^{Footnote 1} Horse and carriage would not reach them in the 21st Century. We have to use modern transport and the media to reach a world of 7,700,000,000 people. ^{Footnote 2} One of Wesley's famous quotes, when told he should not minister outside his own parish, was 'The whole world is my parish' or to quote Jesus, 'Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations'.

Forget the Horse and Carriage

I clearly knew that God was telling me to use the media and from that time my wife and I started to use audio, video and the printed word to reach the whole world. It has been a long slow journey of trials and blessings. We have lived by faith for 35 years with no fixed income or assets. God has really helped us and at the present time 81 countries have visited our website. Our 24/7 internet radio reaches the whole world, and we have written over

35 books, many of which have been translated into seven languages. We have our own Vimeo and YouTube video channels which reach out to the world of internet users.

Using Television

In 2010 our first venture into live streaming of our teaching was on Justin TV. Every Tuesday at 8:00pm we set up our camcorder in the basement of Barratt Ministries and streamed a series of studies. It was the old 4x3 format and the quality was that of VHS tapes, but it was a start. Now we have a professional studio and cameras and can broadcast HD quality media live or we can edit it in our studios in Manchester.

At that time I wondered what I could teach for our first video broadcast as I wanted to do a new series of studies. I decided to look at the parables of Jesus in Matthew chapter 13 as there are eight of them and seven of them are about the 'kingdom of God'. I realised, when studying them, that there were many more parables about the kingdom in the gospels than those 7 in Matthew 13 and so I continued to prepare a new one each week. Many of the hard sayings of Jesus are also about the

coming kingdom and by the time Justin TV went out of business I had broadcast over 70 studies. The video files were all lost when Justin TV stopped trading and so when we started our own Vimeo and YouTube channel we could not transfer them. I did preach through these studies in Scotland and recorded them to audio and we have put most of them on our radio station.

The Time is Right

I now feel it is the right time to film these studies again and write a series of books as a companion to them. I really believe the kingdom of God is very close and, sad to say, so many Christians do not know what the kingdom of God is and its relevant consequences for us all. I will start to film these studies for our YouTube and Vimeo channels as I write this series and I trust and pray that as you read about the kingdom of God it will motivate you to prepare yourself to face Christ at his judgement seat to account for 'deeds done in your body' and to receive your reward ... or punishment.

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by

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fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 Corinthians 3:13-15

Then comes the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

1 Corinthians 15:24

Footnote 1

Census 2019

Footnote 2

Census October 2019

Introduction

Hidden in Plain Sight

And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.

Luke 8:10

In Sunday school we all knew the definition of a parable – an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. We were informed by our Sunday School teacher that Jesus told stories about everyday things so that people could understand the heavenly meaning. They were hard sayings made easy by

simple illustrations. I believed this lie for 35 years until I read for myself what Jesus said about his parables and it is just the opposite of what I had believed.

No Excuse for Misinterpretation

The disciples asked Jesus why he spoke to them in parables and he told them quite plainly, so we have no excuse for putting our own interpretation to them. He told them that he spoke in parables to hide the truth from those he did not want to know it. He told the disciples he would interpret the parables and give them the keys to understanding them but to the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Lawyers he would hide the real meaning from them because they had closed their ears to truth. Read carefully the scripture below to understand why he told parables.

And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why do you speak to them in parables? 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. For whosoever has, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever has not, from him shall be taken away even that he has.

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Therefore I speak to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which said, By hearing you shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing you shall see, and shall not perceive: 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.

But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, that many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which you see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which you hear, and have not heard them.

Matthew 13:10-17

Jesus always wants to reveal his mysteries to his disciples. Paul was always doing the same. Here is an example:

Behold, **I show you a mystery**; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1 Corinthians 15:51

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I have put more scriptures at the end of this chapter to confirm that we do not need to be confused by mysteries any more. If anything is a mystery to us then it is in proportion to our spiritual blindness and deafness. When Christians are challenged about some of their doctrines they usually say, 'It's a mystery and we have to accept this teaching by faith'. They do not realise that these doctrines come from 'MYSTERY BABYLON'.

You will notice that all the scriptures about mysteries came from Paul – the Apostle to the Gentiles. Peter was the Apostle to the Jews and neither he nor the other Apostles ever talked about mysteries. Until a Jew has accepted Christ they still have the blindfold that God put upon them.

But their minds were blinded: for until this day remains the same vail not taken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:14

Proverbs or Parables

Proverbs are very different than parables. Proverbs are wise practical statements put in a

succinct way. For example, 'A stitch in time saves nine', or to paraphrase a Bible proverb, 'A moaning woman is like a dripping tap'. They are easy to understand and are human wisdom.

Solomon had the wisdom no other man before or after has come even near but it is the wisdom of natural things. Daniel, however, had wisdom that was spiritual. In the prophecy of Ezekiel where he is speaking about the 'King of Tyrus', he said that this king had been in the Garden of Eden and was wiser than Daniel, not Solomon. Solomon's earthly wisdom did not make him righteous or obedient to God and in his old age he turned his back on God and worshipped devils and sacrificed his children to them to please his women – the world's wisest man became the world's biggest fool.

A parable is a riddle and a mystery until you know the interpretation. Jesus told parables to hide mysteries from those he did not want to know about the kingdom.

Hidden in plain sight

Satan is not the opposite of God he is the alternative, the counterfeit, and he also hides his plans from the uninitiated. He uses literature,

images, and symbols to hide his dark mysteries. Most of the classics of literature are occult mysteries. Shakespeare's plays, Alice in wonderland, and Mary Poppins, all have hidden messages for those who have ears to hear and eyes to see. Masonic symbols are a mystery to most people, but to those who have had them explained they are no longer mysteries.

A mystery is not something unknowable; it is something known only to the initiated

Levels of Revelation

There are always levels of revelation and I know that when a person gets higher up in Masonry they are told that what they believed was not the real meaning of the symbols and they are just for the novices. They learn that the 'Architect of the Universe', whom they believed was the same God the Christians believe in, is Lucifer actually and Jesus is the imposter and they must hate him. Only a very small number at the very, very top of the Masonic tree actually know what masonry is

all about and what the symbols really mean. They reveal Satan's secret plan to rule planet earth and for all creation to worship him as god.

Not Just Entertainment

Many of the films we watch have hidden messages for the initiated to show that the plan is going ahead for a One World ruled by Satan. Most films are not made for entertainment, that is what they want us to believe. They are hidden propaganda for the plans of Satan. I have written more about this in my series of books entitled '6,000 years of Babylon' if the reader is interested or thinks this to be far fetched. ^{Footnote 1}

If Satan is the god of this world, as scripture says, then all that is in the world will be motivated by his plans in politics, sport, entertainment, commerce, and 'the church'. It is time to wake up and understand that God's plan for the kingdom to be established on earth is closer than most believers think and they will be caught out just as the bible foretells.

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away

first, and that man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition.

2 Thessalonians 2:3

The Bible is a Mystery Book

I have found this same principle in my walk with God. I have heard Christians say that God always speaks the truth plainly and does not hide it because he is the light. This shows great ignorance because the bible itself is a mystery book that only those to whom God reveals it can understand. To unbelievers it is a collection of historic fables and myths. To most believers it is still a mystery or we would not have opposing doctrines where people have been burned at the stake for their views on the bible. Most Christians do not really understand the plan of God and the reasons he created both light and darkness and rely on the doctrines of their denominations – the traditions of the elders.

What I believed years ago was not wrong in the light I was in but I now see there is a far greater depth in almost everything God says and that few have the knowledge of it. The more I get to know God the more has been revealed of the mysteries of his kingdom.

For Your Ears Only

After many parables, and to each letter of the churches in the book of revelation, Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear". It is a plea and message for us to prick up our spiritual ears and open our spiritual eyes whenever we hear this phrase, because Jesus knows that the majority will hear and see naturally, yet not hear and see spiritually. This is a challenge to us all.

When Jesus explained the parables to the disciples they were not a mystery any more and I trust when you have finished this book you will have had many mysteries of the kingdom of God explained. Of course the condition is that you have eyes to see and ears to hear. If not, you will put your own explanation on them. I would argue that there is only one true revelation of each parable because Jesus was revealing a mystery. Of course there are levels of understanding but the meaning will never contradict. I am amazed how Christians, when looking at scripture, say, "Well I think Jesus meant this or Paul meant that", instead of quoting another scripture to confirm or deny their own thoughts.

As I go through the parables I will endeavour to let the word of God interpret them. I dare not put

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my own thoughts to them – scripture must always interpret scripture. I pray you will be blessed and encouraged and have your eyes opened by the Holy Spirit as you read this first volume. Here are scriptures about the mysteries of God:

For I would not, brethren, that you should be ignorant **of this mystery**, lest you should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in.

Romans 11:25

Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the **revelation of the mystery**, which was kept secret since the world began,

Romans 16:25

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even **the hidden wisdom**, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

1 Corinthians 2:7

Behold, **I show you a mystery**; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1 Corinthians 15:51

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Having **made known unto us the mystery** of his will, according to his good pleasure which he has purposed in himself:

Ephesians 1:9

How that by revelation **he made known unto me the mystery**; (as I wrote afore in few words) Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge **in the mystery** of Christ)

Ephesians 3:3-4

And to make all men see what is the fellowship of **the mystery**, which from the beginning of the world has been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 3:9

This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:32

And without controversy **great is the mystery** of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

1 Timothy 3:16

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And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known **the mystery of the gospel.**

Ephesians 6:19

Even **the mystery which has been hid** from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints.

Colossians 1:26

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of **this mystery among the Gentiles;** which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:27

The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which you saw are the seven churches.

Revelation 1:20

Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, **to speak the mystery** of Christ, for which I am also in bonds.

Colossians 4:3

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For **the mystery of iniquity** doth already work: only he who now lets will let, until he be taken out of the way.

2 Thessalonians 2:7

Holding the **mystery of the faith** in a pure conscience.

1 Timothy 3:9

And upon her forehead was a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

Revelation 17:5

But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the **mystery of God** should be finished, as he has declared to his servants the prophets.

Revelation 10:7

That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of **the mystery of God**, and of the Father, and of Christ.

Colossians 2:2

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And the angel said unto me, Wherefore did you marvel? I will tell you **the mystery of the woman**, and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 17:7

Footnote 1

'6,000 Years of Babylon' - 5 Volumes.

Available from Barratt Ministries website:

www.barrattministries.org.uk, or from Amazon as paperbacks, PDFs, or Kindle downloads

chapter one

Three Kingdoms

Physical & Spiritual

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 11:15

We are looking at the parables of the kingdom in this volume, but which

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kingdom are we talking about, because I believe there are 3 kingdoms of God? I will explain and show which kingdom Jesus was talking about in each of the parables.

The First Kingdom of God

The first kingdom of God was Israel, the physical land of Israel. God was the King of Israel until they wanted an earthly king like the heathen nations surrounding them.

It was a physical kingdom with physical laws and material promises. If you obeyed the law you would benefit in health, wealth, and status. If you disobeyed the laws you would be unhealthy and poor. God promised this land to Abraham and to his seed forever. Jacob, Abraham's grandson, took his extended family, numbering 70 people, down to Egypt and there in the 'Iron furnace' God forged a nation.

When God came down to deliver them out of the hand of Pharaoh and place them in the 'Promised Land' they must have numbered between 2 and 4 million people. He told them they would be a kingdom of priests, that is, a separated people.

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And you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.

Exodus 19:6

Israel lost the kingdom when God put them in Babylon and gave the kingdom to Nebuchadnezzar because of their constant spiritual adultery.

You, O king, are a king of kings: for the God of heaven has given you kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

Daniel 2:37

Trapped in Babylon

Israel have been in this Babylonian system since that time and are still in it today – they use the Babylonian Talmud as their bible instead of the Torah that God gave Moses. Physical Israel are waiting for the promise of God to restore the kingdom to them – and he will do just that when he returns to earth very soon. David will again be king of Israel and Jesus will rule the nations with a rod of iron. I have not heard preachers say that David will be king so below are scripture about the restoration of Israel.

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Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and **David their king**; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

Hosea 3:5

And **David my servant shall be king** over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and **my servant David shall be their prince for ever**.

Ezekiel 37:24-25

When John the Baptist told Israel that the kingdom of God was at hand (meaning very close) they all believed he was talking about the restoration of the physical kingdom of Israel; and this included Jesus' disciples.

John came saying, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Matthew 3:2

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The disciples were ambitious and wanted political positions in this restored kingdom. They thought that if Jesus was the promised Messiah he would fulfil the prophecies and restore what they had lost through disobedience.

Knowing the Times and the Seasons

They were right, of course, but did not know the times and seasons of God and had no idea that another kingdom would be brought in by Jesus that would last 2,000 years until the times of the Gentiles were fulfilled. They argued amongst themselves who would be the greatest, requesting that James and John would sit on the right and left hand when Jesus restored the kingdom. When John was put in prison Jesus carried on with the same message about the kingdom being very close.

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say,
Repent: for **the kingdom of heaven** is at hand.

Matthew 4:17

Jesus always preached the gospel of the kingdom and not the gospel of grace that we preach today.

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Until he had died to redeem us, no one could preach the grace gospel. Jesus was preaching to those under the 'Old Covenant', to those who were still under the law.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the **gospel of the kingdom**, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Matthew 4:23

They Wanted the Kingdom Now!

Even after Jesus had risen from the dead and appeared to the disciples they still believed he would restore the physical kingdom to Israel at that time. He assured them that it was not the time for the restoration.

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, will you at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, it is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father has put in his own power.

Acts 1:6-7

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Jesus told them plainly his kingdom was not of this world but they did not understand it until they had been filled with the Holy Ghost, the one who would lead them into all truth

Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

John 18:36

Jesus came to bring in a new kingdom that was within a man – a spiritual kingdom. This kingdom did not promise material blessings but spiritual blessings. Obedience under the New Covenant brings persecution and misunderstanding, not wealth, health, and status.

Yes, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

2 Timothy 3:12

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Romans 8:17

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If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us.

2 Timothy 2:12

The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?

Matthew 10:24-25

Paul told the believers in Ephesus and Rome that the kingdom of God is spiritual and that the blessings of this kingdom are spiritual not physical.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

Ephesians 1:3

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Romans 14:17

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Read the following scripture carefully for it is very clear if you have eyes to see. Jesus said the kingdom he would bring does not come with observation. In other words you cannot see it because it is not a physical kingdom. This kingdom is within a man.

And when Jesus was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, the kingdom of God does not come with observation, neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

Luke 17:20-21

When a person accepts Christ as their Saviour they are not entering the kingdom of God – the kingdom of God is entering them.

We are now the temple of God and the kingdom is in us. Of course, it should be obvious that it will manifest in our outward physical life as described in the Sermon on the Mount, as a proof that the

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Kingdom is within us. Evangelism is not getting people into the kingdom it is putting the Kingdom into people.

The Church is not the Kingdom

Many Christians believe the Church is the Kingdom of God. When they say 'another soul in the kingdom' they mean 'another soul in the Church of Christ'. They believe they are building the kingdom – the Church, but they are wrong. Jesus said he would build his church so if a pastor is trying to build 'his' church he is usurping Jesus' authority and it cannot be Christ's church. We are told to preach the gospel and make disciples and Jesus will build his church.

Take Back What Adam Lost?

Christians have always desired to take over the world for Jesus but they have misunderstood the mandate – it is to preach to the whole world and not to save the whole world. It is Catholic doctrine to control politics and commerce and make the world 'Christian'. Europe was called 'Christendom' (The Kingdom of Christ) before Charlemagne

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renamed it Europe. We are now in the dispensation where God's people do not have a physical kingdom in this world and that is why Peter tells us to live as pilgrims and strangers in this world and why Jesus said 'We are not of this world'.

Dearly beloved, I beseech you **as strangers and pilgrims**, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.

1 Peter 2:11

This spiritual kingdom within a person was absolutely a new thing that Jesus purchased for us. God, Jesus and the Holy Ghost no longer go with people, they inhabited them and they became temples of God. What a glorious kingdom to have inside a human body. If believers could only grasp this fact then they would live and love so very differently.

The Kingdom is not Eternity

When reading the Beatitudes in Matthew chapter five, most Christians think Jesus is talking about salvation and eternity. For example, the first one says, 'Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs

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is the kingdom of heaven' They think he is saying, blessed are the poor in spirit they will be saved and live forever with Christ in heaven for eternity. But they are wrong. Jesus is talking about the kingdom that he will reign over on this present earth and not eternity after heaven and earth have passed away. The promises of Jesus are usually about the kingdom he will reign over and the rewards we receive when we are obedient.

Losing the Kingdom

Many of the parables also talk of punishment or banishment and it is from the kingdom he will reign over that he is talking about. Jesus is always referring to his 'Judgement Seat' in the parables and not the 'Great White Throne Judgement' for eternal life – which is entirely by faith. The millennial kingdom is obtained by works as we shall see from the parables. When Jesus was talking about the state of the world just before he returns to earth to reign he says this:

So likewise, when you see these things come to pass, know **the kingdom of God is near at hand.**

Luke 21:31

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This physical kingdom can only be the reign of Christ on earth, eternity will be 1,000 years in the future at the coming of Jesus. The Kingdom cannot be the church (Kingdom Now Theology) because Jesus said it was very near to be manifest in the last days. Think about the logic of what I am writing because Christians have been led astray by false teachers – one of the signs that we are indeed in the last of the last days. When talking to his disciples Jesus said that it was hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom.

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 19:23

However, he could not have meant salvation, for eternity, for I personally know many rich men who have accepted the forgiveness of sins and by faith will inherit eternal life, but they are not willing to forsake all and be a disciple. The cost is too great to deny themselves, take up their cross and live the Sermon on the Mount lifestyle.

If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren,

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and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:26

Jesus was talking about the coming kingdom which is obtained by how we live in this life. Those believers who understand the teachings of Jesus are looking for the third kingdom of God – the coming Kingdom of Jesus Christ where he will reign for 1,000 years on this earth. Those who are looking for the old kingdom of God to be restored will also be satisfied, for Jesus will restore the Kingdom of Israel back to its rightful owner after the counterfeit, Babylon, has fallen.

The nation of Israel will again be a country with a king. Jesus will reign over all the earth and the scripture will be fulfilled, 'The glory of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea'. Since 1948 Israel has been run by the Zionists, who are counterfeit Jews. The Jewish Almanac claims that modern Jewry is Edom, and they will be cast out of the temple when Jesus returns.

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom you seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even

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the messenger of the covenant, whom you delight in: behold, he shall come, says the LORD of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appears? for he [is] like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and he shall sit [as] a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

Malachi 3:1-3

Only those in the first resurrection will reign with Christ, that is, those with the resurrected spiritual bodies because flesh and blood cannot inherit this kingdom.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

1 Corinthians 15:50

Paul says that all Christians must stand before the judgement seat of Christ to account for how they have lived as believers and will have to produce things that will either be destroyed or things that will remain.

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Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble. Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but **he himself shall be saved**; yet so as by fire. Don't you know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 3:12-16

Nations that are Saved

Those who lose everything will not inherit the kingdom but are saved by grace and will be in the final resurrection. Because their names are in the book of life they will inherit eternity in flesh and blood. They are the nations that are saved mentioned in the book of Revelation. The passage following, from Revelation, is about the new earth and eternity. And these saved nations will walk in the light of New Jerusalem – the bride of Christ which comes down from heaven to the new earth.

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The **nations of them which are saved** shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honour into it.

Revelation 21:24

Those who present gold, silver, and precious stones at the judgement seat of Christ are what make up the bride of Christ – they are New Jerusalem.

Much could be said about all this so if this seems confusing to you, study it for yourself without your biased doctrinal glasses on. The bible states what I have said quite clearly. I have written a series of 7 books entitled 'Israel, the Church, and the Kingdom of God' which explains in greater detail all I have just written. ^{Footnote 1}

Satan's Counterfeit Millennium Kingdom

Satan has always wanted this kingdom with his man as king. Hitler talked about his 1,000 Year Reich which is only a counterfeit of the coming 1,000 year reign of Christ with his saints. Paul said that those who suffer with him will reign with him. This cannot be eternity for Christ will not reign. He will have handed the kingdom back to God so

Three Kingdoms

that in eternity God is over all and Jesus will again be subject to his father.

Then comes the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. ...And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

From 1 Corinthians 15:24-28

I will now look at the parables of Jesus in Matthew 13 and we will find it is a time line of the spiritual kingdom that we are now in.

Here are scriptures where Jesus and the apostles talk about the Kingdom of Heaven or Kingdom of God. (I can find no difference between the two and believe they refer to the same kingdom.) I will discuss these parables in subsequent volumes.

Therefore is **the kingdom of heaven likened unto** a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

Matthew 18:23

Three Kingdoms

For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

Matthew 20:1

The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son.

Matthew 22:2

Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

Matthew 25:1

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

Matthew 25:14

Fear not, little flock; for **it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.**

Luke 12:32

Then said he, **Unto what is the kingdom of God like?** and whereunto shall I resemble it?

Luke 13:18

Three Kingdoms

And again he said, **Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God?**

Luke 13:20

And as they heard these things, he added and spoke a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because **they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear**. He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

Luke 19:11-12

Jesus answered, **My kingdom is not of this world**: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

John 18:36

But when they believed Philip **preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God**, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:12

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that **we must**

Three Kingdoms

through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Acts 14:22

And he went into the synagogue, and spoke boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the **things concerning the kingdom of God.**

Acts 19:8

And now, behold, I know that you all, among whom I have gone **preaching the kingdom of God**, shall see my face no more.

Acts 20:25

And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom **he expounded and testified the kingdom of God**, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

Acts 28:23

Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

Acts 28:31

Three Kingdoms

For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

1 Corinthians 4:20

Know ye not that **the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

1 Corinthians 6:9

Envy, murders, drunkenness, revelling, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**

Galatians 5:21

For this you know, that **no whore monger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.**

Ephesians 5:5

Who has delivered us from the power of darkness, and **has translated us into the kingdom** of his dear Son:

Colossians 1:13

Three Kingdoms

That you would walk worthy of God, who has called you **unto his kingdom and glory.**

1 Thessalonians 2:12

Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, **that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer:**

2 Thessalonians 1:5

I charge you therefore before God, and the Lord **Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;**

2 Timothy 4:1

Hearken, my beloved brethren, **Has not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom** which he has promised to them that love him?

James 2:5

Footnote 1

Israel, The Church, and the Kingdom of God - 7 volumes. available from Barratt Ministries website **www.barrattministries.org.uk**, or from Amazon as paperbacks, PDFs, and Kindle downloads

chapter two – parable 1

The Sower

All About Fruitfulness

Behold, a sower went forth to sow; and when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up. Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: and when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: but other

The Sower – Parable 1

fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixty fold, some thirty fold. Who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Matthew 13:3-9

(Also recorded in Mark 4 & Luke 8)

This parable was spoken to Israel, God's backslidden people, who were blind and deaf to spiritual things and to the disciples who Jesus wanted to know about the spiritual kingdom. No one understood this riddle, neither the Pharisees nor Jesus' disciples, but the disciples were open and so asked Jesus later what he was really saying with this first parable.

And the disciples came, and said to Jesus, Why do you speak to them in parables?

Matthew 13:10

I have explained why Jesus used parables in the previous chapters but suffice to say that he wanted them to know the mysteries of the Kingdom and to hide it from those whom God had blinded, so let's look at what he told them about the parable. In the record in, Mark's Gospel, Jesus makes a very important statement and we should take note of it.

The Sower – Parable 1

And Jesus said unto them, Don't you know this parable? and **how then will you know all parables?**

Mark 4:13

In other words, this is the first parable and the key to all the other six parables in Matthew 13. Jesus only explains the first two of these parables which I believe are the keys to all parables of the kingdom.

Not the Gospel Message

The sower sowed his seed, but what was the seed? Well, it was the word of God according to Luke and Mark, but in Matthew we have the first key to this parable. Most preachers say the word of God is the gospel message that we sow when we evangelise. This sounds good but is a human thought and incorrect because Jesus tells us it is a word of the kingdom – not salvation.

When any one hears the **word of the kingdom...**

Matthew 13:19

This is the kingdom within a man that is not preached very often – this parable is to those who

The Sower – Parable 1

are God's children – those who have already been saved by grace. After Salvation they need to hear about (1) The kingdom that is within and (2) The coming kingdom and how to obtain it.

**This parable is not about
salvation or evangelism, it's about
fruitfulness in a believer.**

That is the bottom line and if we miss it we miss everything because obtaining the coming kingdom is about fruitfulness. Time and again Jesus emphasised this fact. Faith is needed for salvation but fruit is required for the kingdom that is coming.

You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you,
and ordained you, that you should go and **bring
forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain.**

John 15:16

Fruit is the character of Christ, the fruit of the spirit, the beatitudes.

The sower sowed his seed into the ground or earth, and Jesus tells us that **the ground is our heart.**

The Sower – Parable 1

When any one hears the word of the kingdom, and doesn't understand it, then comes the wicked one, and catches away that which was **sown in his heart**.

This is he which receives seed by the way side.

Matthew 13:19

So let us look at the four classes of Christians who hear about the kingdom in their hearts and their corresponding reactions to it.

Category 1 – The Wayside

This first group of Christians hear about the kingdom but do not understand it and so what was sown in their heart is snatched away before they even leave the meeting where they heard the word. I know this to be true because most of my teaching is about the kingdom within and the coming kingdom and yet so many do not know what I am talking about.

...and understands it not, then comes the wicked one, and catches away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

Matthew 13:19

The Sower – Parable 1

After explanation they still think the Church is the kingdom and desire to win the world for Jesus. They cannot understand that there is a price that has to be paid to obtain the kingdom. So many want God to be a 'Sugar Daddy' and supply all their wants and indulge in them. They cannot see that there is a cross to bear if they want to wear a crown in the kingdom.

Satan Himself

Mark tells us that the wicked one who takes the word of the kingdom away is Satan himself. If the seed is taken away it can never germinate and they will never bring forth fruit – how sad!

And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, **Satan comes immediately, and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.**

Mark 4:15

Matthew's account says the fowls of the air are the ones who take the seed away. They are evil spirits of Satan that deceive people and block their ears and their eyes spiritually.

The Sower – Parable 1

Category 2 – Stony Places

But he that receives the seed in stony places, the same is he that hears the word, and anon with joy receives it; yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while: for when tribulation or persecution arises **because of the word**, by and by he is offended.

Matthew 13:20-21

This is an interesting category because these Christians hear about the kingdom and receive it with joy, but alas they have not enough good ground to maintain the growth. There are too many stones in their heart that have never been rooted out and they cannot maintain the pressure that comes with growth. The world has too much pull on them. The stones of entertainment and security, of status and pride, all hinder the growth and the roots are not allowed to spring into growth and fruit. Family and the cares of this life do not let the young plant grow, The kingdom is lost to them.

They lose the kingdom but not their salvation and they don't even realise it. Again I say, how sad!

Let's take it Literally

If we take the proportions literally then 50%, or half, of all Christians do not bear fruit. Is this possible? Of course it is. My own observation convinces me it is a fact. Of all the people I know who are 'Saved', very few seem to have the fruit of the spirit – the character of Christ. They moan and groan about everything the world complain about; the health system, politicians, the church, and although they talk faith, when it comes to practically demonstrating it they have no more faith than the devil, because they only believe God 'can', and not that God 'will'. Most Christians pray for a miracle out of fear of the consequences if he doesn't answer, not with the faith that it is already done. Do I sound judgemental and hard? Well, so be it. It is my honest appraisal after being in the ministry for over 50 years.

Category 3 – Among Thorns

He also that *received seed* among the thorns is he that hears the word; and the care of this world, and the *deceitfulness of riches*, choke the word, and **he becomes unfruitful.**

Matthew 13:22

The Sower – Parable 1

This is an interesting category as it tells us that these Christians started so well and began to produce fruit, because Jesus says they 'become unfruitful'. They stopped bearing fruit. Why? Jesus gives two reasons.

Cares of This World

The first is the cares of this world. Surely this is responsibilities and obligations. To my mind, one of the biggest responsibilities, and therefore hindrances to fruit bearing, is family. So many Christians put their family above the kingdom. I know they do not realise it but I have seen it to be true. They will run their lives around the family commitments and fit in the spiritual activities in accordance. If their family arrange something when they were committed to a spiritual activity they don't tell the family they have a prior arrangement – they miss the assembling of themselves together in opposition to what we are instructed to do 'forsake not the assembling of yourselves together'. I am not talking here about going to church because as individuals, we are the church, I am talking about spiritual fellowship.

Where is the Dedication Today?

The early church met daily yet some Christians can only meet once a week ...if nothing else comes in front of it. I know people who miss fellowship because they cannot leave their dog for a few hours or they have to baby-sit their grandchildren. All legitimate obligations for the world, but we are not of this world.

Another obligation or burden can be education or a career. These can also be stones that stop fruit bearing in the heart if not put secondary to the things that cause us to bear fruit.

Let me remind you of what Jesus said.

So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsakes not all that he has, **he cannot be my disciple.**

Luke 14:33

The second reason Christians become unfruitful is 'the deceitfulness of riches'. This in not riches themselves for money is neutral – it is the love of money that is the curse which makes us unfruitful. Financial success in this world is a drug that will de-sensitise us to fruit bearing.

The Sower – Parable 1

I remember a couple coming into my father's church from a life of drug abuse and crime. God gloriously saved them and turned their life around. They were at every meeting, and God began to bless them. They acquired a council flat after being homeless, they both found jobs and they had 2 lovely children. As they began to enjoy this new lifestyle they were deceived into missing meeting to work overtime to fill their house with new furniture.

The Deceitfulness of Riches

As they progressed whilst God was blessing them they decided to buy their own house. The houses in the centre of Manchester where my father's church was situated were expensive compared to those on the outskirts of Manchester and so they moved away and purchased a wonderful new property.

They could no longer come for fellowship and slowly they backslid. God had prospered them and they no longer needed God, they could live like the rest of the world. I have seen this repeated many times in varied situations but always with the same results – they stopped bearing fruit because of the deceitfulness of riches. How very sad.

The Sower – Parable 1

This category accounts for 25% of Christians who are saved and become disciples. They put their hand to the plough and look back, and according to Jesus, in his dialogue about discipleship, are not fit for the kingdom to come. They are saved but will not reign with Christ in his kingdom.

Jesus said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but you go and preach the kingdom of God. And another also said, Lord, I will follow you; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. And Jesus said unto him, **No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**

Luke 9:59-62

Category 4 – Good Ground

But he that receives seed into the good ground is he that hears the word, **and understands it**; which also bears fruit, and brings forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Matthew 13:23

The Sower – Parable 1

This fourth and last category is the one that is fruitful and the reason is simple. All four categories heard the word of the kingdom but only this category understood it and put the kingdom principles into practice. If you hear the word about the kingdom and will not put the principles into practice you have, by default, rejected it and are numbered amongst those on the broad way. The narrow way is the way of discipleship as portrayed in the Sermon on the Mount.

Hearing and Not Doing

Those who build their house on the sand are those who hear and don't do. Those whose house stands are those who hear and obey the words of the Sermon on the Mount – that is the conclusion Jesus gives.

Therefore **whosoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them**, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And **every one that hears these sayings of mine, and doesn't**

The Sower – Parable 1

do them, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Matthew 7:24-27

Disciples are fruit bearers – those that constantly become more like Christ in character – those who constantly renew their mind. Some bear 30 fold, some 60 fold and some achieve one 100 fold. 'Fold' means 'times' so thirty fold does not mean 30% but 30 times as much. This exponential multiplication is what happens with fruit. A single pip from an apple will in time produce a tree with 100s of apples each year for 80 years.

That is what fruitfulness is all about, being conformed in character to Christ.

Who Has Ears to Hear?

At the end of this first parable Jesus gives a challenge 'Who has ears to hear, let him hear'. Let me finish this chapter with a warning because when

The Sower – Parable 1

the word is proclaimed then we have an obligation to practice it and not just believe it. This is the only way to bear fruit.

If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. And he said unto them, Take heed what you hear: with what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that has, to him shall be given: and he that has not, **from him shall be taken even that which he has.**

Mark 4:23-25

chapter three - parable 2

Tares & Wheat

Infiltration

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Matthew 7:15

This is the second parable Jesus told in his discourse in Matthew 13. It is only

Tares & Wheat – Parable 2

recorded in Matthew's gospel and the only other one that he explained to his disciple and so, along with the sower, will give us the keys to the seven parables of the kingdom. Here is the parable

Another parable Jesus put forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field. But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? where did the tares come from? He said unto them, An enemy has done this. The servants said unto him, Do you want us to go and gather them up? But he said, No. Lest while you gather up the tares, you root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:24-30

The strange thing is that he told another two parables before he explained about the Tares

Tares & Wheat – Parable 2

and Wheat and only after he had sent the crowds away. The disciples asked him in private for the interpretation. Notice, that he says he will reveal things that have been kept secret from the foundations of the world, which means all those who lived under the Old Covenant did not know about the mysteries of this kingdom.

All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable he spoke not to them: 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**. Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.

Matthew 13:34-36

These are the main points in the parable of the tares

1. A man sowed good seed in his field.

2. While men slept an enemy sowed bad tares in the same field.

3. The servants were told not to root up the bad tares lest they uproot the good wheat.

4. They had to wait for the harvest for the separation of the wheat and tares.

5. The master will instruct his servants to gather the wheat into the barns and burn the tares.

After the crowd had left and Jesus was alone with his disciples in a house, they asked him to interpret the parable and he did. Therefore, we must not put our own interpretation to this parable if Jesus explains what it all means. Let's look at it closely and see what it is all about. Remember they are all parables about the kingdom within and the coming kingdom of Christ.

Jesus Sows the Field

The first thing we can establish is that Jesus is the one who sows the seed for he says it is the **Son of Man**. This cannot be preachers, or Christians who are evangelising, because Jesus himself is the seed sower.

Tares & Wheat – Parable 2

He answered and said unto them, **He that sows the good seed is the Son of man.**

Matthew 13:37

In this parable the seed is not a word, or message of evangelism, or of the kingdom. This may surprise many readers but **the seeds in this parable are people.**

...the good seed are **the children of the kingdom.**

Matthew 13:38

They are planted in the kingdom by none other than Jesus. We did not choose Christ – he chose us for his kingdom.

You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever you shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

John 15:16

The first parable is when we accept the message of the kingdom within and start to bear fruit –

the life of Christ manifests in our lifestyle – the kingdom is within us. We have striven to enter the narrow gate of discipleship. Now we are part of this spiritual kingdom that will reign with Christ. We are now part of that alien band that are in the world but not of it.

Notice, that in the parable of the sower, the ground was the heart, but in this parable the seed is **planted in a field** and we find that the field is the world (here is another key) so this will now apply to all the parables that are about a field – so take note. We are his seed of the kingdom placed in the world, but we are not to be of this world.

The field is the world.

Matthew 13:38

We now need to discover who the tares are and it is easy to establish who they are for Jesus tells us. They are the children of the wicked one. So the children of God and the children of the wicked one are in the same field – the same kingdom.

...but the tares are the children of the wicked one.

Matthew 13:38

The tares are people as well as the wheat according to Jesus, but they are not bad wheat they are tares.

It is interesting that tares and wheat look the same until the time of fruitfulness just before the harvest. There are tiny black seeds inside the tares and when eaten can cause dizziness and nausea. The tare stands straight up, and proud, while the wheat bows from the weight of the fruit, in humility.

Not False Prophets

This is very revealing. These tares are not the false prophets that Peter talks about in his second epistle for they clearly knew the way of righteousness and have been seduced into Babylon. Peter said it would have been better for them if they had never known the way of righteousness and been cleansed.

These tares are not bad wheat that need bruising to separate the chaff from it – bad Christians, but are Satan's plants in the kingdom who act as

believers but have never been and never will be. There are many in the modern church who are Satanists and yet believers do not have discernment even though it is near the time of harvest, when the tares manifest themselves.

We Need Discernment!

Christians find it so hard to acknowledge tares because they look like wheat and the Jesuit agenda with the 'Love Gospel' teaches we should not judge. Paul clearly tells us that Satan's ministers teach righteousness so **the message or doctrine is not how we judge the tares.** The scripture below is so plain and unambiguous and yet Christians still have difficulty believing it – why? They have already been deceived.

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing **if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness;** whose end shall be according to their works.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

Judge them by Their Fruits

Neither can we judge these tares by the signs and wonders these Satanic plants in the body of Christ perform; or their good and charitable deeds, even though they use Jesus' name. Jesus himself warned the disciples that these wolves in sheep's clothing would do all these things and we were not to judge them on this criteria but to judge them on their fruit – the manifest life of Christ. In other words – if they are covetous and proud and self righteous then there is something wrong.

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. **You shall know them by their fruits** ...Not every one that says to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, **have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out devils? and in your name done many wonderful works?** And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity.

From Matthew 7:15-23

In this parable the servants were surprised that they were not allowed to root out the tares. They were told that maybe it would damage some of the wheat so they would have to wait for the harvest. This is because the roots are woven together. What a picture of the mixture of Babylon.

Because some of these plants of Satan preach salvation by faith many people are saved after listening to their message. I personally know of Satanists who masquerade as men of God and I know of genuine converts from their crusades. Evangelists whose crusades were financed by known Satanists and Masons. We are not supposed to try and destroy their ministries, but to discern them and wait for the harvest as instructed. The question is: When is the harvest?

The Harvest is The Judgement

Most Christians think of revival as a harvest of souls into the Church but in the bible harvest is always the time for judgement – when the wheat and chaff are separated and the tares are burnt with fire. Jesus tell us plainly when the harvest will be in this parable and who will be the reapers. The reapers are not evangelists or apostles they

Tares & Wheat – Parable 2

are God's angels and the harvest is the end of the world. Surely this is when Jesus returns and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of Christ; when he will judge in righteousness and expose the false prophets for what they are. Here is Jesus' explanation of the harvest and the separation.

The enemy that sowed them is the devil; **the harvest is the end of the world**; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 13:39-42

All that Glitters is Not Gold

Notice the angels gather the tares and all that offend **OUT OF HIS KINGDOM**. These are not outside the kingdom but growing with the good wheat in the kingdom. That is the insidious truth that Christians need to understand.

This includes the synagogue of Satan that is mentioned in two of the letters to the Churches in the book of Revelation.

The Zionists are the modern Pharisees whom Jesus said were children of the devil. They are rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem for antichrist – not Jesus. They have taken the Holy Land by political means and God has not restored it to them as the bible prophesied when they repent. They have not yet repented and are a secular nation. Just as Saul, the king of the flesh, came first before David, the man after God's own heart, so the false Messiah has to come first and then Jesus will come suddenly to his temple, as Malachi foretold to purge it and reign for 1,000 years.

You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him.

John 8:44

After the tares have been rooted out of the kingdom and burned, then the wheat will reign with Christ for 1,000 years. This parable is about the kingdom and not eternity.

Tares & Wheat – Parable 2

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun **in the kingdom** of their Father.

Matthew 7:43

Jesus ends his explanation of this parable with the same words as he does with the parable of the sower because they are the keys to the other five parables. Most ministers do not realise that the seven parables are a chronological time line of the kingdom and so interpret each one separately, and so often say the opposite of what Christ is teaching as we shall see as we go through the other five parables.

Jesus ends this parable with the words, 'Who has ears to hear, let him hear.'

We have seen how the kingdom starts with a person hearing about it and because their heart is good ground they accept it and bear fruit – they are now in the kingdom and this process started when Jesus taught about the kingdom when he was alive on this earth – The kingdom within and the coming kingdom were not mentioned in the Old Testament only the restoration of the physical kingdom of Israel.

As soon as Satan saw this kingdom he wanted to corrupt it so he planted his own ministers – tares to grow with the wheat in the same kingdom of God.

This is always his tactic. When the word of God was translated for the common man, in the 1600s then Satan decided to corrupt it and bring out so many versions that now a person can decide for themselves what they want to believe. There are 450 versions of the bible in English, all copyrighted (they have to be significantly different to obtain copyright status). And just like the tares Christians cannot discern which are true and which are false.

Conclusion

1. The Sower: Kingdom starts with seed – the word, sown in hearts bringing no, little, or much fruit.

2. The Tares: Satan sees the Kingdom and plants his own people as ministers of righteousness so as to look the same as genuine ministers.

They grow together until the harvest at the end of the world.

chapter four – parable 3

The Mustard Seed

Numerical Growth of The Kingdom

You, O king, are a king of kings ...And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven he has given into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all. You are this head of gold.

From Daniel 37-38

The next two parables are also linked together for they speak of similar progressions in the Kingdom. This one is about the numerical growth of the Church and the next one, about leaven, is about the growth of wrong doctrine in the Church. These two parables of Jesus have been grossly misunderstood by most bible teachers because they have not taken them in context or used the keys that Jesus gave in his explanation of the first two parables. They are a progression of the kingdom.

Fast Growth

When Satan plants tares, that is, his ministers, into the kingdom of God there is a growth that spreads like wildfire throughout the whole body of Christ and that is what these two parables are all about. This is the first and shortest one being only one verse in length and speaks about the growth of the Church after these tares, the ministers of Satan, have been planted in it. Here is the parable.

The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field. Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when

The Mustard Seed – Parable 3

grown, is the greatest of all herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches.

Matthew 13:31

Here are the main points:

1. It is about the kingdom of heaven which we now know is the kingdom within a man and the kingdom to come.

2. The mustard seed was planted in the field which we now know is God's kingdom in this world.

3. It is the least of all seeds.

4. It becomes the greatest of all herbs.

5. It becomes so large that the fowls of the air can nest in its branches.

We now have a new seed in the kingdom – a mustard seed. Mustard is only mentioned in the New Testament and was not grown in vegetable gardens as we do today. It was a wild tree that grew

in the fields. We can understand what the mustard seed means from its natural properties.

Not the Smallest

It is described by Jesus as the least of all seeds. This cannot mean the smallest for physically it is far from the smallest – they are between 1-2 millimetres in diameter which is quite large for a seed. One of the meanings of the word 'least' translated from the Greek is 'of rank or influence' (Strong's). In Jesus' day it was a despised herb because of its fast growing properties and known as a malignant weed with dangerous takeover properties. Here is a quote from Pliny:

The mustard seed grows entirely wild, though it is improved by being transplanted: when it has once been sown it is scarcely possible to get the place rid of it as the seed when it falls germinates at once.

Pliny the Elder in his *Natural History*
Published around AD 78

This is a perfect type of the corruption that comes when Satan's ministers enter the body of Christ. As soon as they are planted these 'mustard

The Mustard Seed – Parable 3

seeds' germinate and the growth of the Church is quick and endeavours to cover the whole earth. Its natural tendency is to grow quickly and big and that is the danger. When Constantine who I believe was 'a tare', said he had converted to become a Christian in 312 AD we see that the Church grew exponentially and covered the whole Roman Empire. He professed Christianity yet lived like a pagan, a sure sign of one of Satan's plants in the body of believers. The persecution stopped and the Church grew.

The Vine is Christ

The mustard tree is not a symbol of the church. The Church is the vine – Christ – we are the branches, the very body of Christ on earth. The vine is not allowed to grow big for it is pruned. A church that grows mega in a short time is a giveaway that the mustard seed principle is at work in it. Where is the pruning? Growth upon growth is not the way of the kingdom. When we bear fruit the vine is pruned to produce more fruit. The 'Church' is the tree and ministers are trying to produce a large tree. But Jesus is not looking for a big tree he is looking for much fruit. The

emphasis is all wrong in our modern Christian society and the values are not those of godliness. God's kingdom is in the world but not of it. The tendency of the Church is to abide in the world instead of the vine.

In God's kingdom, popularity is dangerous – success is even worse

The bane of the modern Church is the pursuit of success, destiny, power, wealth, status, and influence. Where is all this in the teachings of Jesus and of the apostles? It is not to be found unless you make the mustard seed a good thing.

Little Flock

The kingdom of God starts small, 'little flock' Jesus called them (Luke 12:32). These are they that have come through the strait, restricted gateway and as Jesus said, 'Few find it'. This implies the kingdom is not for the mega flock. Ministers use the two parables we are discussing to show that the Church should take over the world, but they are wrong. They have not interpreted them with scripture but with the worldly mindset that 'Big is

Beautiful'. The world is in darkness and Satan is its god. The church are to be lights in the world, a city set on a hill so that the whole world can see we are different and God's people – his peculiar treasure, and treasure is always in the minority and rare.

Because the Church want quick growth they use this parable to say exactly the opposite of what Jesus is teaching. They say that quick growth is good whereas Jesus is saying that quick growth is a cover for doctrines of devils. He says that when the mustard tree grows quickly and is the biggest of herbs (it grows to 9 feet tall – 2.5 metres) then the fowls of the air nest in the branches.

The Fowls of the Air are the Devils

We know that the fowls of the air are devils, for Jesus gave us the key in the first two parables. How deceitful it is to say the very opposite and make out the fowls are good in this parable. The motives of men's hearts are exposed when they put a different spin on what Jesus said, and gullible believers who do not study the bible for themselves believe the lies and prove Jesus' point. Mark's gospel says 'The fowls lodge under the shadow of the tree'. It is a cover for their work and deception.

The Mustard Seed – Parable 3

The history of the Church is my biggest proof that what Jesus said was correct and the church have misunderstood the parable. Church history shows that when the kingdom gets big it allows a cover for evil spirits and doctrines of devils. Every revival started with a few dedicated, passionate, holy people. However, as soon as the fire spread and it became large the doctrines of Babylon started to infiltrate it and the growth was impressive and quick. All revivals, without exception, have ended in apostasy and have become daughters of Babylon. They all become businesses and organisations instead of staying living organisms.

Mustard Seed Faith

I should mention that Jesus also used the mustard seed as an example of the faith that will move a mountain.

If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain

Matthew 17:20

Here again it fits perfectly with the description of mustard seeds that I have shown. Faith that

The Mustard Seed – Parable 3

immediately germinates and is despised by others. God takes the weak things to confound the mighty. He take the faith that seems the least and moves mountain with it. I think that Peter and John had this mustard seed faith when they spontaneously told the lame man begging alms at the temple to rise up and walk when he had been crippled from his birth. It was spontaneous and faith germinated immediately and a wonderful miracle took place in front of their eyes.

Conclusion

The mustard seed is another progression in the growth of the kingdom of Christ in this world. After the message of the kingdom is sown and people receive it (parable of the sower) then Satan plants his own people, the tares, in the kingdom to grow alongside the good people, the wheat. The persecution stops because of compromise and they introduce the doctrines of devils which is what the next parable is all about – the leaven. The church can add people who are not disciples and growth is assured. They grow the kingdom so large that the devils themselves can use it as a cover for their pernicious ways

The Mustard Seed – Parable 3

and teachings, and this is what the next parable is all about.

chapter 5 – parable 4

The Hidden Leaven

Doctrines of Devils

A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

Galatians 5:9

This parable is another one that shows how the kingdom becomes contaminated, not numerically, but spiritually with wrong teaching from Satan's ministers and I believe it gives us

the three areas in which this happens. Here is the parable:

The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

Matthew 13:33

The first thing I want to do is look at the properties of leaven, what it is and what it does, so that we can apply it to this parable. Again, I find it incredible that teachers of the word of God have gone against all the scriptures about leaven and put their own interpretation to this parable. Symbols are consistent in the bible and they are our guide – the scripture must interpret scriptures.

Leaven is Corruption

The Hebrew word *châmêts* is translated 'leaven,' 'leavened,' and 'leavened bread.' It means that which is leavened or fermented. Words related to this word are translated by such words as 'violence,' 'cruelty,' and 'vinegar.' The common ground is **sourness and corruption**. 'Unleavened bread' in the Old Testament is translated from the Hebrew

word *matstsâh*. Its basic meaning is that which is sucked up or greedily devoured because it is sweet. That is, it refers to that **which has not been soured**. This gives us an idea of what leavened bread was like before the invention of modern yeast.

Corrupted by Fermentation

It is because sourdough bread was a lump of dough that had become corrupted by fermentation that caused it to swell, bubble, and turn sour, that it was considered impure. God used this concept to make leavened bread a symbol of impurity and corruption that can spread throughout the whole. The substance of the bread was no greater but the size was – it was full of hot air.

Leaven is mentioned many times in the Old and New Testaments so it will be good to see if it is ever used as a good thing. The first mention is in Exodus. After the Passover on the 14th day of the first month there was a feast for seven days and it was called the feast of unleavened bread. Eating leavened bread was punishable with death. To associate the sacrifice for sin with corruption and rotteness is obviously unthinkable.

The Hidden Leaven – Parable 4

Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; even the first day you shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

Exodus 12:15

No blood or fire offering could be offered with leaven.

You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven.

Exodus 34:25

No meat offering, made with leaven: you shall burn no leaven, in any fire offering

Leviticus 2:11

However, there was an exception and Israel were allowed to offer one sacrifice to God with leaven.

You shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the first fruits unto the LORD.

Leviticus 23:17

We Are Still in Flesh and Blood

This puzzled me for a while until I realised that it was the Wave Offering that could be offered with leaven. It seems that any offering for sin must be pure. For example, 'a lamb without blemish', but when we bring our own offering, not for sin but to please him, we come as we are – with our flesh and that is never pure. We still have leaven in our lives and that is why we need to constantly purge it out as Paul told us. It does not make leaven good, it is a symbol of our corrupt nature that will be with us until we get the new spiritual flesh.

It is the New Testament that really shows what the leaven symbolises as Jesus, who gave these parables, shows us in other parts of the gospels.

Jesus said, 'Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees'.

Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread, which when Jesus perceived, he said unto themHow is it that you do not

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understand that I spoke it not to you concerning bread, that you should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? Then they understood how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of **the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.**

Matthew 16:6

Leaven – Doctrine of the Pharisees

It is clear from this passage that Jesus was saying that the doctrines of the Pharisee was like leaven. It would permeate all Israel with corruption, and of course it did as history has proved. The Pharisee's doctrine came from Babylon and not the Torah. They took their teaching from the oral tradition passed down from the Rabbis. That is what Jews use today – the Babylonian Talmud, and hold it above Moses' Torah. The Pharisees were custodians of the Babylonian Talmud and Jesus called their doctrines the traditions of elders.

Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

Matthew 15:2

For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, **holding the tradition of the elders.**

Mark 7:3

The 'Tanaim,' which meant 'teacher of the law,' were the Scribes, the rabbis whom Helena Petrovna Blavatsky ^{Footnote 1} identified as the first Kabalists. From the ranks of the Scribes evolved the sect of the Pharisees. According to Occult Theocracy, by Edith Starr Miller, the creators of the Cabala were the Pharisees, who had formed their sect in Babylon during the captivity and functioned as a secret society after the Jews returned to Israel. The 'secret doctrine' of Babylon remained the oral tradition of the Pharisees until they committed it to written form:

The Russian writer Netchvolodow likens the Pharisees to our modern Freemasons, whose Gnostic and dominionist agenda were subversive of society. He also compares the characterization of the Pharisees to our modern Zionists, i.e. the Judeo-Freemasons, who are secret practitioners of the Kabbalah, while affecting to hold to the traditional beliefs of Judaism as set forth in the Old Testament.

Responsible for the Blood of the Martyrs

It is interesting to compare what the book of Revelation says about Babylon being responsible for all the blood of the prophets and apostles with what Jesus told the Pharisees.

And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

Revelation 18:24

Wherefore you are witnesses unto yourselves, that you are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill up then the measure of your fathers. you serpents, you generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell? Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them you shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall you scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom you slew between the temple and the altar.

Matthew 23:31-35.

Here is an interesting quote from Emil Schurer about the Pharisees:

They had the bulk of the nation as their ally, and women especially were in their hands. They had the greatest influence upon the congregations, so that all acts of public worship, prayers, and sacrifices were performed according to their injunctions. Their sway over the masses was so absolute that they could obtain a hearing even when they said anything against the king or the high priest, consequently they were the most capable of counteracting the design of the kings. Hence, too, the Sadducees, in their official acts, adhered to the demands of the Pharisees, because otherwise the multitude would not have tolerated them.

Schurer, *History of the Jewish People in the Time of Christ*, Part. 2, 2:28
Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, July 1987.

I believe the Pharisees were the tares whom Jesus was talking about in his day, but we need to see the parallel today and who the modern tares are.

Jesus exposed the Pharisees on many occasions and said they were of their father the devil – surely

Satanists disguised as ministers of righteousness. He exposed their covetousness, pride, love of the praise of men, and self righteousness. I have shown the whole passage from Matthew 23, where Jesus attacks them vehemently, at the end of this chapter.

The Pharisees Were Exposed by Jesus

Are these doctrines of leaven in the church today? Of course, logic says they must be because God doesn't change, Satan doesn't change and God's people do not change. The doctrines of the Pharisees are the doctrines of devils and so the same doctrine will be in God's people under the New Covenant. So, where are they? It would take a whole book to write about the corruption that is in the church, and maybe I will write one, but here are a few examples for you to consider.

Anyone who is preaching the 'Prosperity Gospel' (name it and claim it) is preaching covetousness and it is the leaven of the Pharisees.

Any one who is preaching the 'Self-Worth Gospel' is preaching pride and is a doctrine of leaven. Jesus told us to 'deny self', not promote it.

Anyone who is preaching the 'Love Gospel'. That is the belief that Christians should be without

suffering and that 'Grace' covers disobedience is also preaching the doctrines of leaven.

Leaven of Herod

Jesus also told his disciples to beware of the Leaven of Herod so what is this leaven?

He charged them, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, **and of Herod**

Mark 8:15

The Herod dynasty were the enemies of God's people. They came from the seed of Amalek, the same line as Haman who tried to destroy all of God's people in the time of Esther. Herod was king of the Jews, but he was no Jew – he was from Idumeah in Edom and the seed of Esau just like many of the modern Jews. (The Jewish almanac says that 'modern Jewry is Edom' – what an admission of the same spirit that Herod had.)

Zionists Are Not Pro Jewish

The Zionist movement is not pro Jewish. It is part of Masonry, they plan to rebuild the temple

and put antichrist there. Of course many good and sincere Christians are Zionist but have no idea of the real purpose of obtaining Israel politically as they have done. They have been deceived thinking they are God's chosen people. If you doubt me read the letters of Theodore Hertzl the front man of the Zionist movement.

Here is a quote from a website called Catholic Reality:

Theodore Herzl who created Zionism only a hundred years ago was a Freemason. His goal is the same as Albert Pike's (the author of the Satanic Bible of Freemasonry "Morals and Dogma") to bring the world to the point of true religion the worship of Lucifer. Zionism was created as part of this agenda of despotism. True Jews want nothing to do with Zionism. Israel is run by Zionists who are atheists and Masonic Luciferians hiding behind Judaism.

This is not a wild accusation for I have read 'Morals and Dogma' and I have studied the link with Zionism for many years.

Herod was religious but also political – he was King of the Jews but a puppet of Rome. The doctrine of this mixture is rife in the church today.

Babylon is Not All Bad

I need to clarify something here lest the reader misunderstand. Babylon is not all bad. We need to remember that Daniel, Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego were in Babylon and they were God's remnant. He tells his remnant to come out of her in the book of Revelation so he expects them to be in the Kingdom of Babylon. It is the mixture that makes it an abomination to a pure God. When you mix the kingdom of God with the kingdom of this world you have the mixture that constitutes Babylon.

As soon as you bring voting into the body of Christ you have become political and the leaven of Herod has permeated the body.

When you bring business practices to 'win souls' the body of Christ have accepted the leaven of Herod.

Why Three Measures?

I now want to address the rest of the parable. Jesus said that 'a woman hid leaven in three measures of meal'. This is very interesting. First we have to decide who the woman is and then we need

to ask why she hid it in three measures of meal and not just one.

All the women in the bible can be put into two categories. Either they represent the Virgin Bride of Christ, or the Whore of Babylon. This woman hid the leaven, which we now know represents corruption so we can eliminate the Bride and say it is the Whore of Babylon. Why did she hide it in three measures? I believe it is because there are three main areas where this corruption comes from, but we have to go to the book of Daniel to discover them.

Daniel lived in the reign of Nebuchadnezzar who was King of Babylon and as such is a type of antichrist. The King of Babylon is clearly called Lucifer in Isaiah 14 so we know that the counterfeit church will worship him. King of Babylon will be the head of the One World Church. The Whore is not the opposite of the Bride, but is the counterfeit purporting to be the pure bride and indeed looks it outwardly (see the description of her in the book of Revelation, dressed in gold and silver and precious stones just like the bride of Christ – New Jerusalem). Of course inwardly she has the heart of an harlot and if you look inside the cup she is holding it is filled with abominations.

God had put his people into Babylon because they wanted the mixture. He handed the kingdom of Israel to Nebuchadnezzar to rule until Christ returns to destroy this kingdom.

A Time line of Babylon

God showed Nebuchadnezzar the whole future of this empire by way of a statue, until Jesus returns. It is beyond the scope of this book to explain it but I have a series of books entitled '6,000 Years of Babylon' if the reader is interested ^{Footnote}

¹ It is recorded in Daniel chapter 2, and Daniel is speaking to King Nebuchadnezzar:

This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. You, O king, are a **king of kings**: for the God of heaven has given you a **kingdom, power, and strength, and glory**. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven has he given into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all. **You are this head of gold**. And after you shall arise another kingdom ...And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed:

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and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. For as much as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

From Daniel 2:36-45

God called Nebuchadnezzar a 'King of Kings' in the above passage. This is the title of Jesus who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

And Jesus has on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Revelation 19:16

Kings of Babylon – the Popes

Therefore he must be a type of Christ ...or the counterfeit Christ, antichrist. The one who rules the counterfeit church, Babylon. God handed the kingdom to this man and he has been ruling ever

since. The Pope is the modern antichrist or head of the Babylonian counterfeit church because the statue that Nebuchadnezzar saw included the iron legs of Rome. What did God give him? The **kingdom, the power, and the glory**. Again these are the things that belong to God and the three things he will hand to Jesus when he returns to earth. This is Christ's inheritance to rule the nations with a rod of iron. We say in the Lord's prayer after we have asked for the kingdom to come on earth, 'Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory'.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done in earth, as it is in heaven ...For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

From Matthew 6:10-13

What is the conclusion of all this? I believe these are the three measures that the counterfeit tares have brought into the body of Christ.

Whenever or wherever we see believers seeking the kingdom now, the power, and the glory we can be sure we are seeing the results of the leaven that the tares (Satan's ministers of righteousness) have hid in the meal. It has contaminated the body of

Christ and permeated through all Christendom so that now these are almost the doctrines of the modern believers, who are ignorant that it is the leaven, the doctrines of devils.

Measure 1: Seeking the Kingdom Now

'Kingdom Now' theology is a branch of 'Dominion Theology' which has had a following within Pentecostalism. It attracted attention in the late 1980s. 'Kingdom Now' theology states that although Satan has been in control of the world since the Fall, God is looking for people who will help him take back dominion.

This 'Kingdom Now' theology has spread like leaven in the last 50 years and most believers think that the church is the kingdom and that it must spread throughout the whole world. They believe they have to redeem culture, the judicial system, politics, sport, music, and be an influence in this world. This is brazen Catholic, Babylonian teaching and leaven in the body of Christ. We are to wait for Christ's return before we can reign as kings and priests. Even Jesus is not reigning in this world at the present time. If he is I can

only cry 'God help this world'. Now is the time to sacrifice and endure hardship as a good soldier. The reward will come later when Jesus returns. The kingdoms of this world will only change when Jesus comes and takes over with a bloody military coup.

Measure 2: Seeking Power in This World

Whenever the church seek power in this world they have been permeated with the leaven. When the church court politicians, or the politicians court the Christian vote and the Christians are deceived into voting for them it is a sure sign the measure has been contaminated by this Babylonian leaven.

The pattern does not change. Napoleon made a concordat with Pope Pius and Hitler did the same. President Trump is courting the Christian vote and undiscerning believers are falling for it and don't know he is following the Jesuit Catholic agenda that will plunge us into World War III to bring in the One World Government. Billy Graham was a good friend of the Jesuits and told the 'Bible Belt' in the USA to vote for presidents. If you know history then you will know the future.

Deceitful Workers

Paul and Jude warned about these men – tares who would creep into the body of Christ and deposit the doctrines of devils.

And because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage.

Galatians 2:4

For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude 1:4

Measure 3: Seeking the Glory

Self seeking, and glory of self and ministry, is also rampant in the church. This is one of the measures that has been impregnated with the hidden leaven of Babylon. God will not share his glory so, if a church or individual want only 1% of

glory God will give them 100% because he wants it all or none at all. He will never compromise in this area. That is why he chooses the weak things of this world, that he may get the glory and not man.

But God has **chosen the foolish things** of the world to confound the wise; and God has **chosen the weak things** of the world to confound the things which are mighty; **and base things** of the world, and **things which are despised**, has God chosen, yes, and **things which are not**, to bring to nought things that are: **that no flesh should glory in his presence.**

1 Corinthians 1:27-29

Immorality is Leaven

Paul alludes to the illustration of leaven in his letter to the Corinthian believers who had allowed immorality into the body of Christ and yet glorified themselves. He says that a little bit of immorality in the body will leaven the whole lump. I personally have never seen so much immorality in the modern church and I see it rapidly increasing each year that passes.

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Your glorying is not good. Don't you know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, as you are leavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: 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.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Remember that the whole was leavened because of these three measures hid in the meal.

The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

Matthew 13:33

I firmly believe that the leaven has done its insidious work and the whole of the church worldwide has fallen away because of the doctrines of devils that Satan's plants have deposited in the unleavened bread. It has been corrupted by little amounts of corruption hidden deceitfully. It is time for those who have ears to hear, and eyes to see, to come out of this system before it is too late. That

is the cry in Revelation just before God judges Babylon prior to Jesus returning; or maybe as he returns.

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that you are not partakers of her sins, and that you do not receive her plagues.

Revelation 18:4

This is the passage in Matthew 23 where Jesus exposed the Pharisees. Read it and see how they permeated this leavened doctrine among God's people and then see how it is in the body of Christ today.

Then Jesus spoke to the multitude, and to his disciples, saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not after their works: for they say, and do not.

For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. But all their works they do for to be seen

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of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, and love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

But be not called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all you are brethren. And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ. But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for you neither go in yourselves, neither suffer them that are entering to go in. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore you shall receive the greater damnation.

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you compass sea and land to make one proselyte,

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and when he is made, you make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

Woe unto you, you blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! You fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifies the gold? And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever swears by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty. You fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifies the gift? Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, swears by it, and by all things thereon. And whoso shall swear by the temple, swears by it, and by him that dwells therein. And he that shall swear by heaven, swears by the throne of God, and by him that sits thereon.

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these you ought to have done, and not to leave the other undone. You blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you make clean the outside of the cup and of

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the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. You blind Pharisees, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore you are witnesses unto yourselves, that you are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill up then the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell?

Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them you shall kill and crucify; and some of them you shall scourge

The Hidden Leaven – Parable 4

in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom you slew between the temple and the altar.

Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you that killed the prophets, and stoned them which are sent unto you, how often would I have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, You shall not see me henceforth, till you shall say, Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Footnote 1

Helena Petrovna Blavatsky was a Russian occultist, philosopher, and author who co-founded the Theosophical Society in 1875. She gained an international following as the leading theoretician of Theosophy, the esoteric religion that the society promoted.

Footnote 2

The Hidden Leaven – Parable 4

The five volumes are entitled '6,000 Years of Babylon' and are available from the Barratt Ministries website www.barrattministries.org.uk, or from **Amazon** as a paperback or Kindle download.

chapter 6 – parable 5

Treasure Hid in the field

God's Redemption Plan

Remember your congregation, [which] you have purchased of old; the rod of your inheritance, [which] you have redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein you have dwelt.

Psalm 74:2

The next two parables we are going to look at can also be linked together. The treasure in the field shows us the secrets of the kingdom and how God's redemptive plan was acted out at the time the disciples lived on this earth. The pearl of great price shows that Jesus' part in this plan was different than God's and why he was willing to be part of it.

The Kingdom Started With Abraham

It would be good at this stage in the parables to remember that God's plan for the kingdom started with Abraham for he was the first person to come out of the counterfeit system of Babylon. Jesus told this parable to those under the Old Covenant. He was revealing the plan to his disciples who would enter the New Covenant in AD 70 when the Old Covenant finished. Even after the cross and resurrection of Jesus, Paul says the Old Covenant was ready to vanish away – in other words it had not finished yet.

In that he said, a new covenant, he has made the first old. Now that which decays and waxes old is ready to vanish away

Hebrews 8:13

There was a transitional period of a generation after Jesus rose from the dead for Israel to accept him. But alas this did not happen and the fig tree had to be hewn down and destroyed. Only a remnant remained when Titus raised Jerusalem to the ground and finished the Old Covenant temple, with its provision for atonement once a year.

They Couldn't Believe It!

Jesus told this parable while he was still alive and the disciples never thought he would be crucified. They wanted the 'Kingdom Now' because the leaven had penetrated all Israel. Even Jesus' disciples had been permeated with the doctrine of the Pharisees. We tend to see the parable as only pertaining to the 'Church' (meaning 'after Pentecost') but we would be wrong. The plan for the kingdom started with Abraham, and Israel were the first Kingdom of God. They will be restored after the times of the Gentiles have finished so to write them off and exclude them from these parables is not wise.

We have now reached in the seven parables the time of Jesus for they had all been fulfilled up to

this point in Israel. Of course the Gentile Church were also told about the kingdom within, the tares and doctrines of devils because the same would happen to them but up to this point in history it had only happened to Israel.

Revealing The Mysteries

Now, Jesus dismissed the multitudes and the last three parables, of which this is the first, were spoken to his disciples in secret and he did not throw out the challenge 'Those who have ears to hear' because he was not revealing the mystery to those hard of hearing. This mystery was for the disciples who did have ears to hear and eyes to see. He didn't explain them because he was leaving it until the event happened in front of their eyes. Then they would understand when he, the risen Saviour, explained the mystery to them.

When Jesus appeared to them after he had risen from the dead he explained all things to them and their eyes were opened and they saw clearly the plan of God. Then they understood all, and so can we if we let the bible interpret itself and not hold on to the doctrines of the church if they have leaven in them.

Treasure Hid in the Field – Parable 5

These things his disciples did not understand at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, **then they remembered that these things were written of him**, and that they had done these things unto him.

John 12:16

And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and **while he opened to us the scriptures?**

Luke 24:32

Here is the parable of the treasure hid in a field and again it is only a verse in length:

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man has found, he hides, and for joy thereof goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.

Matthew 13:44

With this parable we have to decide three major things to get a true interpretation.

1. What is the treasure?

2. What does the field represent?

3. Who was the man who bought the field to gain the treasure?

If you go to any website and look at the explanation for this parable you will find they are generally all the same in that they give many wonderful thoughts as to what it means but, as they do not use the bible as the keys for interpretation, they are mere speculation and therefore can never reveal the true meaning. We must not forget that parables are hidden secrets and without the keys we will never discover the hidden truth.

Checking The Time-Line

Let us look at the progression of the kingdom up to this point because if it is chronological, as I believe, then we need to constantly check where we are up to in the time line.

The sower sows a word of the kingdom into men's hearts and some bear fruit – those that are willing to strive to enter the narrow way of discipleship. This is true under the Old Covenant as well as the New Covenant. There was a cost to being a disciple as the life of Caleb, or Abraham, Moses, or Daniel, would confirm to us.

The Tares are the people that Satan plants amongst God's people to grow with them and spread the wrong teaching.

History Repeats Itself

Paul tells the Bride of Christ that this happened to Israel and warned them of these Tares.

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2 Peter 2:1

In Jesus' day these Pharisaical tares had dominated Israel with their Babylonian religion, and the leaven had spread everywhere.

Israel grew from 70 members (an extended family) to be a nation. Where did it happen? In the world of course – Egypt. This cannot be by chance; surely God is showing us something with this. Remember a mixed multitude came out of Israel with their calf worship and their foreign gods. The mustard seed did it's job. The leaven also did

its dastardly work in permeating the Babylonian doctrine of devils throughout the whole of Israel and the Pharisees in Jesus' day were the Tares that spread this corruption.

After Jesus had sent the multitude away, and had gone into a house: his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field ...and he explained it. Then he gave three more parables to them. We are looking at the first one.

A Coded Message

God was telling them in a coded message what his plan is to remedy this situation in the kingdom of Israel. He had spoken through the prophets that he would restore Israel to greatness and send a Messiah to do it. Of course the prophets never thought that God would have a son to deliver them. It was never in their wildest thought that God would sacrifice his own son for them. Christians seem to think that he died for the Gentiles and he did. Jesus was the Passover Lamb for all. But he was specifically the Atonement Goat for all Israel so they could as a nation be 'born in a day' at his return from the temple in

heaven having presented his own blood for the redemption of Israel.

Jesus said to Nicodemus that famous verse that all believers can quote verbatim.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

It says that God, not Jesus, loved the world. This parable is about the plan of God and how he gave all to gain what was his treasure.

So let's us look at the three main points of the parable

1. What is the treasure?

What does God regard as his treasure throughout the Old Covenant – his own people whom he redeemed out of Egypt. He found one man, Abraham, that believed God's word about the kingdom and acted upon it. He bore fruit and his seed became a nation and this is what God said about it.

Treasure Hid in the Field – Parable 5

For the LORD has chosen Jacob unto himself, **and Israel for his peculiar treasure.**

Psalm 135:4

Now therefore, if you will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then you shall be **a peculiar treasure unto me above all people:** for all the earth is mine: and you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.

Exodus 19:5-6

So, I conclude that God's people Israel whom he redeemed out of Egypt are his treasure. However, those that came out of Egypt were not all Israel – it says a mixed multitude came out and these were the ones who introduced the doctrines of devils in the wilderness which corrupted the whole of Israel so that they, as one man, refused to go into the promised land.

Only the remnant, Joshua and Caleb of the original people that came out of Egypt, went into Canaan. Canaan is not a type of heaven (that is a myth of the 'Negro spirituals'), it is a type of the kingdom reign of Jesus (our 'Joshua') who will destroy all our enemies, take the land, and reign for 1,000 years.

God is Looking for His Treasure

God is always looking for the treasure (the ones who are peculiar and separate from the mixture of Babylon) and he found David – a man after his own heart. Saul was disobedient and was on his way to witchcraft and suicide when God rejected him and began to look for a new treasure.

But now your kingdom shall not continue: the LORD has sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be captain over his people, because you have not kept that which the LORD commanded you.

1 Samuel 13:14

And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

Acts 13:22

Israel failed again and again and so God sent his son to this world to his own people Israel, (he did not come for the Gentiles) it was God's last chance

for Israel to repent and turn again to Him. They rejected him and crucified him.

This was all in God's plan because the bible records that Jesus was slain, in God's mind, from the beginning of creation.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him,
whose names are not written in the book of life of
the Lamb slain **from the foundation of the world.**

Revelation 13:8

We now come to the next question:

2. What does the field represent?

We do not have to think about this for Jesus has already given us the key – the field is the world. God wanted the treasure (his people) so he purchased the whole world for the treasure that was in it. His true disciples in every age are hidden in this world, they are in it but not of it.

God paid the ultimate price and he was willing to give his son, his most treasured possession, to buy the field (the whole world) to redeem his people again. Not just the seed of Abraham but the Gentiles could now become God's treasure. What

a blessing for those of us who are not of the seed of Abraham. The Church in the New Covenant are now part of God's treasure that he purchased by saving the whole world.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

John 3:16-17

It makes perfect sense that God took away the sin of the world for those who would accept him and be his treasure. The whole world have been saved, but they have to accept it by faith, but it has already been done. The field has been purchased by God. Everyone who accepts the sacrifice of God will be saved.

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ Therefore as by the offence of one **judgment came upon all men** to condemnation;

Treasure Hid in the Field – Parable 5

even so by the righteousness of one **the free gift came upon all men** unto justification of life.

Romans 5:17-18

We Are All Saved if We Believe It

I use a simple illustration to show that the whole world are saved if they will accept it by faith. If I tell 10 beggars that I have deposited £10 million in their bank account. They have to believe me to go and collect it. If they do they are rich, but if they do not believe me and do not bother to even check if it is true they will die as beggars, even though they were millionaires. People who do not believe they have had their sins forgiven 2,000 years ago, and all they have to do is believe and accept the free gift of eternal life, will die in their sins. This is so sad but true. This will torment them throughout eternity.

Peter quotes the same to those under the New Covenant as Moses said to those under the Old Covenant. We are now God's treasure if we are the remnant plucked out of Babylon.

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood,
an holy nation, a peculiar people

1 Peter 2:9

3. Who is the man who purchased the field because he wanted the treasure?

We have already answered this – it must be God himself. He was willing to pay for the field (the world) with the death of his only son. God now has his people who are redeemed by the blood of his son, Jesus.

Hidden Treasure

The field had been purchased but the treasure still remains hidden at this time in history. Where are the 10 lost tribes of Israel and who of the Jews are really of the stock of Abraham? The Zionists are certainly not true Jews as, by their own admission, they are from the stock of Esau. The Bride of Christ is also hidden in Babylon at this time, because the tares and the wheat grow together and who can say which is which, except by divine revelation, or until near the harvest when the fruit begins to show?

One day the treasure of Israel will be manifest and the Bride of Christ will also be transformed into a spiritual body and no one will be in any doubt who God's treasure is in the millennial reign

of Christ. Wow, I am looking forward to all this. The little flock is hidden but the time is drawing near when all will be revealed and the manifestation of the sons of God will appear.

Read slowly the passage below and be encouraged that we are near the return of Jesus.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein you greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, you are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perishes, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: whom having not seen, you love; in whom, though now you see him not, yet believing, you rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied

Treasure Hid in the Field – Parable 5

of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into. Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

1 Peter 1:2-13

chapter 7 – parable 6

The Pearl of Great Price

Purchasing the Bride & the Kingdom

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

Hebrews II:26

We have come a long way in the progression of the Kingdom of God but we are now at a most marvellous point for it is about the Bride of Christ, and the price our redeemer paid to purchase her. Let me again go through the progression up to this point in the history of the kingdom.

1. The Sower

God sows a word of the Kingdom and some hear, obey, and bear fruit.

2. Tares and Wheat

God plants these people, who bear fruit, in the world to shine as lights, so Satan also puts his people, the Tares, in the same Kingdom that is in the world as lights, but they are, of course, false lights. Nevertheless they look exactly like the Wheat until the time of fruitfulness.

3. Mustard Seed

Because of the Tares the Kingdom grows numerically so that the fowls (devils) can take cover in the Kingdom with their deadly doctrines.

4. Leaven Hid in Three Measures

Now these corrupt doctrines pervade the whole kingdom and corrupt it in 3 main areas.

5. Treasure Hid in the Field

God's plan of redemption for Israel and the Gentiles is shown.

We now come to a wonderful parable for it shows why Jesus was willing to suffer and die for his Bride. Here is the parable. Again it is very brief – only one verse.

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls. When he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Matthew 13:45

The questions we need to ask in this parable are:

- 1. What does the pearl represent?**
- 2. Who is the merchant?**
- 3. Why give everything for his one pearl?**

The Pearl of Great Price – Parable 6

Let me answer these three questions using the bible to interpret them

1. What does the Pearl represent?

Most commentaries on this parable say that the pearl is Jesus, and we give everything to gain him. I was brought up to believe this view of the pearl. Many hymns have this theme and so establish it in believers' minds, but is it in line with scripture? Well, yes and no.

Here are the verses from two hymns which confirms to people their belief about the pearl.

O that Pearl of great price! have you found it?
Is the Saviour supreme in your love?
O consider it well, ere you answer,
As you hope for a welcome above.
Have you given up all for this Treasure?
Have you counted past gains as but loss?
Has your trust in yourself and your merits
Come to naught before Christ and His cross?

Translated from Swedish -Andrew Skoog, 1893

I've found the pearl of greatest price,
My heart doth sing for joy:

The Pearl of Great Price – Parable 6

And sing I must, a Christ I have;
O what a Christ have I?

John Mason – Verse 1

The perception is that the pearl is Jesus. He is the pearl that we must purchase. It is about Salvation. But this cannot be true because it just doesn't fit.

When I started to look at all the parables in Chapter 13 of Matthew, and realised they were the history of the Kingdom from Abraham until Jesus' return, I realised that this is not a good explanation and is based not on scripture but natural thinking.

Salvation is at No Cost to Us

We do not have to give anything up or to pay any price to be a Christian because it would be works based and not of grace. It is simply by faith alone that we obtain eternal life. There is nothing we can do, there is no price we can pay to obtain Salvation. It is faith alone or it is not Salvation.

The pearl must be the Bride of Christ and the kingdom because Christ gave all to obtain his bride, and the kingdom. This is the pearl, ... and so must we give all as saved believers if we want to be the

Bride, and obtain the kingdom. I will further this thought later in the chapter where I show this parable applies to us as well, but not to obtain Christ or Salvation.

The same treasure that is hidden in the field, that God purchased is, to Christ, a costly pearl. He would give all for it. I found there are many wonderful things about the pearl that identify it with the Bride of Christ and the coming kingdom. I will not elaborate on them but leave the reader to 'join the dots'.

1. Pearls are the only gem that come from the sea. All other valuable gems come from the land and are mined and then worked upon by man to be perfected.

2. The pearl, whatever size, is complete and does not need to be faceted or cut in any way to make it perfect or beautiful.

3. The life of a pearl starts with the irritation of an oyster. The oyster secretes a fluid (mother of pearl) to coat the grain of sand that is in the fleshy, tender part of the oyster, and it coats the grain. The more pain the more the pearl grows.

It is formed through suffering just like the Bride of Christ.

4. Pearls are "built" one layer at a time. This makes the pearl unique among gem stones, as all other stones are not built in layers, but are formed.

Pearls in the Bible

Pearls in the Bible are associated with women – good and bad – the Bride of Christ or the Whore of Babylon.

In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, **or pearls**, or costly array.

1 Timothy 2:9

Pearls are the attire of the Bride of Christ but also the attire of the Whore of Babylon. The Bride of Christ that comes down from heaven to the new earth is described in detail in the book of Revelation and tells us that the 12 gates to this city are all pearls.

The Pearl of Great Price – Parable 6

The twelve gates were **twelve pearls**; every several gate.

Revelation 21:21

So the entrance to being the Bride, and to reign in the kingdom with Christ, is through suffering.

The false woman, the whore of Babylon, also adorns herself with pearls but she has not obtained them through suffering she has gained these costly symbols through prostitution.

And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and **pearls**, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.

Revelation 17:4

Hidden Wisdom

Pearls also speak of the hidden wisdom of the Bride and the kingdom, and we are warned not to share the secret of the Kingdom to just anyone or it will be to our detriment. Pearls are wisdom we gain through the painful trials and suffering we go through.

The Pearl of Great Price – Parable 6

Don't give that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

Matthew 7:6

I can safely say that the pearl is the Bride of Christ and the kingdom Christ will inherit.

2. Who is The Merchant?

I believe the merchant is Jesus, because he was willing to pay the ultimate price, to suffer and die to obtain this pearl as his reward, his Bride and the kingdom. Paul says 'the author and finisher of our faith' was willing to suffer for the joy that was before him. I believe his joy was to obtain that pearl, his bride and the kingdom.

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

The Bible says that God so loved the world but it says that Jesus loved his own. Jesus did not pray

for the world in his last prayer on earth, he prayed for his treasure, his pearl, his Bride.

I pray for them: I don't pray for the world, but for them which you have given me; for they are yours.

John 17:9

It was God's plan that Jesus died. Jesus was the obedient son. Jesus did not make the sacrifice, he was the sacrifice of God. God gave his only begotten son. Jesus suffered and sacrificed for the joy that was before him, his inheritance and his Bride, and to rule the nations for 1,000 years with his Bride was the motivation to set his face like a flint.

For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.

Isaiah 50:7

Jesus is now at the right hand of God waiting to receive his kingdom and to consummate his marriage to his Bride. He is not interceding for lost souls because he has already died for them and his work has finished as he said whilst he was dying. He

is interceding for his Bride that she makes herself ready without spot or blemish ready for the great wedding feast and consummation of the marriage.

3. Why Give Everything for This One Pearl?

Just as a man is willing to go to great lengths to win his Bride so Christ was willing to suffer for his bride. Just as a man is willing to suffer pain and rejection to gain position or the acclaim of men in this world so Christ was willing to suffer to obtain his kingdom and rule the nations. The prize was high and so was the cost, but Jesus was willing to pay for it.

The Only Real Answer is Love.

The key to understanding all of God's plan is to understand love. Men will suffer and die for love and this is why Jesus was willing to pay the price – love for his Bride. We suffer for love, only a fool would suffer for hate. God's eternal plan, conceived in his mind before the foundations of the earth were laid, was one of love, romance, and family life. I have written seven volumes on this theme, from the Garden of Eden to the new heaven and

earth, for any reader who is interested. The subtitle is "The History and Future of God's People." ^{Footnote 1}

So we can say that Jesus gave all because of love and we have an explanation of the parable of the pearl – or have we? I believe that this parable is the one that we need to understand more than any other because it is a challenge to us and very applicable in these last days.

We also have to pay the price to be the Bride of Christ and to obtain the kingdom and reign with him

This parable is applicable to us if we want to run the race and obtain the prize. Salvation is free and is not the pearl, but if we want to be the Bride of Christ and obtain the kingdom it is obtained at a very high price. We have to give all and go through much tribulation and suffering. Paul makes it clear that those who want the kingdom must suffer.

If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us.

2 Timothy 2:12

The Pearl of Great Price – Parable 6

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that **we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.**

Acts 14:42

Gaining Our Inheritance

Jesus obtained his inheritance, but we have to gain ours. It is not enough to be God's children and have eternal life. We have to mature into the Bride of Christ to gain the kingdom inheritance. However, Jesus in his Sermon on the Mount discourse says that 'few find it', and although this will seem almost blasphemy to many believers it is consistent with the whole bible and with the remnant who overcome.

From only eight being saved in the flood to Caleb and Joshua, through to Daniel, it is always the remnant that win the prize and carry the kingdom to the next generation.

This is the narrow gate of discipleship, not the broad way of believers who accept Christ at no cost. This parable is a challenge to follow the example of Jesus and lay down our lives for him and the brethren.

He Couldn't Pay the Price

The rich young ruler who came to Jesus could not pay the price to obtain the kingdom. He wanted eternal life but no more and he went away sorrowful. His riches on this earth were more important than treasures in heaven, and this is all too common for believers in the prosperous first world. Jesus was offering this young man a chance to be the Bride of Christ and to reign with him for 1,000 years and, in his blindness, he exchanged it for a 'mess of pottage' just like Esau. How many Christians who have eternal life will not pay the price for the kingdom? The answer is the majority! Jesus said few find this way and many are on the road to utter ruin and shame when he returns to judge his church.

There are works to do to obtain the kingdom. Suffering and sacrifice are what it takes according to Jesus and the Apostles. Jesus told us to seek first, the kingdom, the pearl, that means make it the number one priority of our life.

But seek **first the kingdom of God**, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

Jesus said that unless we are willing to lose all we cannot be his disciples.

If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever does not bear his cross, and come after me, **he cannot be my disciple.**

Luke 14:26-27

So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsakes not all that he has, **he cannot be my disciple.**

Luke 14:33

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14

The Sermon on the Mount is the manifesto for the Bride and the kingdom. ^{Footnote 2} Peter told us to

The Pearl of Great Price – Parable 6

live as pilgrims in this world. We are in it but we are not supposed to be of it. It's time to leave and be disciples if we want to obtain this pearl.

Dearly beloved, I beseech you **as strangers and pilgrims**, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.

1 Peter 2:11

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that **they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth**. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore **God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he has prepared for them a city**.

Hebrews 11:13-16

Let me challenge you to leave this world for a while and go up the mountain. You will never be the same.

Footnote 1

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chapter 8 – parable 7

The Net Cast into the Sea

Judgement in The Kingdom

And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in your sickle, and reap: for the time is come for you to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

Revelation 14:15

Here is the progression of the kingdom of God from the six parables we have already looked at.

1. The Sower: Kingdom starts with a seed – the word of the kingdom, sown in hearts bringing no, little, or much fruit.

2. The Tares: Seeds are people planted in the world to shine. Satan plants tares which look like wheat.

3. The Mustard seed: Numerical quick growth so that it becomes a cover for evil spirits so they can permeate their false teachings.

4. Leaven hid in three Measures of Meal: the Kingdom, power, and glory, that permeate the Kingdom and corrupts the Bride.

5. Treasure hid in the field: God saved the world to get the treasure – Israel.

6. The Pearl of great price: The cost of the kingdom and the Bride that Jesus was willing pay for with his life.

The Net Cast into the Sea – Parable 7

Let us not forget that the last three parables, mysteries of the kingdom in Matthew 13, are in private to his disciples.

Here is the last parable and it shows us the end of the age and the beginning of a new physical Kingdom of Israel with Jesus reigning with his Bride for 1,000 years.

The kingdom of heaven is like a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.

Matthew 13:47-48

We have new symbols in this parable that we need to look at. We have a net and we have the sea.

What does the net represent?

A net is used to gather in over as big an area as possible. Fishermen use as big a net as they can manage to get the biggest catch of fish. A net is used to catch things. It is not by chance that the Internet is called the World Wide Web, it is a net

to encompass the whole world and draw it into the net just as a spider casts a web to catch a fly. What is this net meant to catch? Jesus tells us as I will show.

What does the sea represent?

Jesus said this net was cast into the sea. In the bible the seas represent the nations of the whole world, multitudes. John, on the Isle of Patmos saw a beast rising out of the sea, in other words out of the nations.

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Revelation 13:1

Gog and Magog, who come after the millennial reign of Jesus to battle with the saints, are like the sand of the sea, meaning, innumerable.

And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them

The Net Cast into the Sea – Parable 7

together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Revelation 20:7-8

Jesus says that the net caught every kind. This implies a mixture which is important to note.

We do not need to speculate or even use the bible to interpret this parable for Jesus himself gives the interpretation immediately after giving it. Here are the verses.

So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing, gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 13:49-50

From these verses we know that this is at the end of the present world when this net is cast. This is when Jesus comes to take over this planet at the last trumpet (there are seven that have to be blown in Revelation) and the scripture will be fulfilled.

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of

The Net Cast into the Sea – Parable 7

this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord,
and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and
ever.

Revelation 11:15

We know that the ones who cast the net are the angels and this is consistent with the parable of the Tares where Jesus explained that the reapers of the mixture of Tares and Wheat were the angels.

The End of The Age

This is not the White Throne Judgement where the books are opened and God himself judges the dead from Adam to the present time. This is at the end of the age, at the Judgement Seat of Christ. This judgement is to determine who will be in the kingdom during the 1,000 year reign of Christ, and who will be cast out of the kingdom. Remember that the tares are in the kingdom of God, not outside it.

The net is cast into the whole world because the kingdom of God is planted in this world, but the net does not reap the world it reaps the kingdom so that the tares and wheat can be separated before Jesus starts his reign. This is the final purging before

his reign commences. The wording is exactly the same as with the parable of the tares.

...And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 13:42

Many times Jesus made reference to the fact that not all those in the kingdom will reign when he returns.

And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the **children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness**: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 8 11:12

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus refers to the tares and says they are the wolves in sheep's clothing and will be banished from the kingdom before he starts his reign. They have transformed themselves as ministers of righteousness and until the fruit comes it is impossible to detect them. Jesus will sort the wicked from the just and nothing that

The Net Cast into the Sea – Parable 7

offends will be allowed into the millennial kingdom. They can hide in the kingdom now but will be exposed before Jesus reigns.

Not every one that says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out devils? and in your name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity.

Matthew 7:21-23

These people were in the kingdom of God but end up in the Lake of Fire.

We have now concluded that the plan of God started with Abraham when he saw the city that God built. It was soon contaminated and was permeated with the leaven of the Scribes, Lawyers, and Pharisees. The Bride of Christ started pure, but soon was contaminated and has been a mixture until this present time. Jesus will soon return and purge this kingdom and it will be pure – the Bride of Christ without spot or blemish and ready for the

The Net Cast into the Sea – Parable 7

marriage feast, the consummation of the marriage and the reign of Christ on earth. But that is for another book. Let me end this chapter with the exhortation to be the Bride and to purge ourselves of all that offends a holy husband to be. Let us make ourselves ready – it will not be long before he comes to claim his Bride.

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him:
for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife
has made herself ready.

Revelation 19:7

chapter 9 – parable 8

Where are the Scribes?

Treasures of the Kingdom

Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like a man that is an householder, which brings forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Matthew 13:52

The seven parables of the kingdom have come to an end. I have shown that it started when God shared with Abraham a 'word about the kingdom', the city whose builder and maker was God. This kingdom will come to its final stage with the separation of the mixture that has been in it from almost day one to purify the kingdom for marriage to Christ and to be fit to reign with him for 1,000 years. After Jesus had finished these parables he asked the disciples a question.

Jesus said unto them, have you understood all these things? They said unto him, Yes, Lord.

Matthew 3:51

They replied, it seems, without thinking about it for they said, 'Yes Lord'. (How often do we do the same when someone quotes a scripture. we say 'Amen' without really thinking about it because they are quoting the word of God.) I am convinced they did not understand the parables at that time, for they later argued who would be the greatest in the kingdom and believed the kingdom would come immediately. Even after the death and resurrection of Jesus they asked him if the kingdom would now be restored.

Where are the Scribes? – Parable 8

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, will you at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Acts 1:6

Nevertheless, the disciples would certainly understand the mysteries of the kingdom of God after Jesus had risen from the dead and explained it all to them. Jesus needed to tell them in advance so that when it was revealed to them they would know what to do with this revelation.

Another Parable of The Kingdom?

He then gives another parable to these disciples. However he does not precede it by saying 'The Kingdom of Heaven' so we must not think it is specific to the kingdom – or is it? Well, it is not included in the seven parables about the kingdom for it is not a mystery of the kingdom but is about what a person who understands about the kingdom does with this Revelation. It is the response we have to the teaching of the seven parables if we have understood them. So it is not about the kingdom but about what we do with the teaching of it. This is the parable:

Where are the Scribes? – Parable 8

Therefore every scribe which is instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which brings forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Matthew 13:52

This is fascinating for it actually gives instruction to those who are scribes. The questions we need to address are

1. What is a Scribe and who are they today?

2. Who was a householder in Bible times?

3. What are they supposed to do with this treasure?

1. Who were the Scribes and who are they today?

Scribes in Jesus day were those who copied the sacred scriptures and this category of persons continued until the advent of the printing press when of course we did not need men to copy

written works. This is what the dictionary says of a Scribe.

Noun - a person who copies out documents, especially one employed to do this before printing was invented.

Historically a Jewish record keeper or, later, a professional theologian and jurist.

The Scribes in Jesus' day were corrupt and interpreted the scriptures to say what they did not mean, but the word 'Scribe' just identifies one who copies documents and is therefore neutral.

2. Who was a householder in Bible times?

It is interesting that the word householder is used in four parables. It is used in the Tares and Wheat parable and in the one we are looking at, but in Matthew 20 and 21 there are two more parables about the kingdom of God that use the term householder, and I will look at these parables in another volume in the series.

A householder in Jesus' day just meant the 'Master of the House' or as used in other parables, a 'steward' who Strong's concordance says was:

1. The manager of household or of household affairs

1a) esp. a steward, manager, superintendent (whether free-born or as was usually the case, a freed-man or a slave) to whom the head of the house or proprietor has intrusted the management of his affairs, the care of receipts and expenditures, and the duty of dealing out the proper portion to every servant and even to the children not yet of age.

1b) the manager of a farm or landed estate, an overseer,

1c) the superintendent of the city's finances, the treasurer of a city (or of treasurers or quaestors of kings).

This is interesting, for when I realised it was someone in authority my thoughts immediately went to those today who are 'householders' of the family of God. I realise it was speaking to us of an Overseer, Presbyter, or Bishop. Those presiding over the 'household of faith'. In fact, Strong's concordance agrees with me for it says.

2) metaph. the apostles and other Christian teachers and bishops and overseers

3. What are they supposed to do with this treasure?

We can now safely say what this parable is all about. Every one who has the position of interpreting the word of God in the body of Christ (the Scribe), is like a Pastor or Elder, (a householder) if he is instructed in the Kingdom of God. This means they understand the previous seven parables of the kingdom and the mysteries it is hiding from the uninitiated (those who are spiritually blind and deaf). These leaders are to bring out of this treasure house things new and old. In other words, as and when appropriate. It means they don't cast their pearls before swine. They bring out the old, but also the new revelation, because revelation is always progressive and never fixed to one level of understanding.

Much More Revelation

I must have only scratched the surface of revelation available from these seven parables. The Holy Ghost is not limited and there is infinite revelation, pearls, if we will suffer enough. This may seem hard and ridiculous to many, but

the man in the early church who had the most revelation, and was not even allowed to share it with us, was Paul. He suffered the most according to my reading of the Acts of the Apostles and his letters to the churches.

We know that this eighth parable is included because after he had given it he says this:

And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence.

Matthew 13:53

These parables in Matthew 13 are an overview of the history and future of the Kingdom of God up to Jesus' return, but there are many more parables that show us specific events and, of course, there are many about the judgement seat of Christ to see who will continue in the kingdom and the millennial reign of Christ and his Bride.

There are so many exciting things to explore in the parables of the kingdom, and I hope you will take this journey with me as I go into the next volume.

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