

Calvary Chapel Eagle

The Gospel of Matthew Chapter 13

(Spend time in prayer before you start this study) Read Matthew Chapter 13

1. Matthew Chapter 13 is full of parables and explanations of the parables. We start with the Parable of the Sower. Verses 1-23 cover the parable, the purpose and the explanation.
 - a. Who is the sower?
 - b. What are the seeds?
 - c. What is the soil?
 - d. What is the wayside?
 - e. What happened to the seed that fell on the wayside?
 - f. Who are the birds?
 - g. What are the stony places?
 - h. Why did the seed on the stony place die?
 - i. What are the thorns?
 - j. What happened to the seed that fell among the thorns?
 - k. What is the good ground?
 - l. What happened to the seed that fell on good ground?

2. Verses 10-17. Why did Jesus speak to the crowds in parables? Also see verses 34-35 and Isaiah 6:9-10.

3. Why did He explain the parables to the disciples?

4. **Dig Deeper:** Go back and read the parable again. What are the factors that keep people from being saved?
 - a. According to the following verses, what is the cause of a hardened heart? Who is to blame? Hebrews 3:12-13; Matthew 13:14-15; Acts 28:27. (Key: Hebrews 3:13)

 - b. Does this text give any indication if these people might have been capable of faith and repentance if not for that hardening?

 - c. According to Acts 28:27 & Romans 11:8 & 10, how do people's hearts become hardened to the point of being unable to believe? (Again, the key is Hebrews 3:13)

5. What part of the parable of the sower describes you? Why?

6. Verses 24-30 & 36-43 tell us the Parable of the Tares.
 - a. What is the field and who sowed the good seeds?

 - b. What are the tares?

 - c. Who sowed them?

 - d. Why couldn't they gather the tares before the harvest?

 - e. What will happen to the tares?

 - f. What will happen to the good seeds?

- g. Many say there is no hell, what does this scripture teach us?
7. **Dig Deeper:** Verses 31-32 tell us the Parable of the Mustard Seed. Do some research and find out what you can about a mustard seed.
8. Now that you have studied a mustard seed, what is wrong with this parable?
9. Who are the birds? Matthew 13:4 & 19.
10. What is really being taught in this parable?
11. **Dig Deeper:** Verse 33 is the parable of the leaven. Do some research and find out what you can about leaven or yeast. What does leaven do?
12. What does the Bible say about leaven?
- a. 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
 - b. Exodus 12:15
 - c. Matthew 16: 6 & 12
 - d. Mark 8:15
13. What is:
- a. The meal?
 - b. The leaven?

c. Who is the woman? Revelation 2:20

14. What is really being taught in this parable?

15. Verse 44-46 is the Parable of the Hidden Treasure and the Parable of the Great Pearl.

a. Who is the man and the merchant? Compare to verses, 24 & 37.

b. What is the treasure and the pearl?

c. What is the field?

d. What did this man do to purchase the field and the pearl? Romans 5:8, 1 John 2:2, Hebrews 12:2.

16. What is really being taught in this parable?

17. Some liken the treasure to Israel and the pearl to the church. Compare this thought with verse 52. What do you think?

18. Verses 47-50 is the Parable of the Dragnet. Here we get the parable and the interpretation together.

a. What is the dragnet?

b. What is the sea?

c. Who are “they” that separate the good from the bad?

d. Who are the good?

e. Who are the bad?

- f. What will happen to the good?
- g. What will happen to the bad?
- h. Who taught these words?
- i. What is Jesus teaching us about hell?

19. Jesus says this will happen at “the end of the age.” Let’s look at what will happen at the end. For the whole picture read Revelation 19 & 20. In Revelation we are told of two new places, “the lake of fire burning with brimstone” and “the bottomless pit.” Who is cast into the lake of fire in Revelation 19:19-20?

20. Who is cast into the bottomless pit in Revelation 20:1-3?

21. Read Revelation 20:7-10. How long will he stay in the bottomless pit?

22. What does he do when he gets out of the bottomless pit?

23. What happens to him in Revelation 20:10?

24. Who else is there?

25. How long will the lake of fire last? Also read Revelation 14:9-11.

26. Read Revelation 20:11-15. What is cast into the lake of fire in Revelation 20:14?

27. Who is cast into the lake of fire in Revelation 20:15?

28. "Annihilation" is a teaching that is becoming popular. This teaching says when someone goes to hell they are burned up and exist no more. Is that what the Bible teaches in Revelation 20? Explain.
29. What does the Bible say will happen, at the end of the age, to those who reject Jesus?
30. After studying this, do you realize why it is so important that we tell others about Jesus? What are you going to do about it?
31. Verses 51-52 Jesus wants to make sure they understand everything He just taught them. When you look at all of these parables together, what do you learn about the kingdom of heaven?
32. What encouragement do these parables give you?
33. What warnings are in these parables?
34. We end this chapter with Jesus returning to His own country, Nazareth. How did the people of Nazareth feel about Jesus?
35. Why did they feel this way?
36. How did their feelings about Jesus affect His ministry in Nazareth?
37. Have you ever had a hard time accepting godly character in someone you watched grow up or knew them before they got saved? Tell us about it.
38. Have your family, friends or people who watched you grow up with ever treated you this way? Tell us about it.