

Expectations

3/25/12

The Response to the Kingdom

Matthew 13:1-23 (The parable of the Sower)

Expectation: Expect a mixed response to the kingdom

Application: Share the message of the Kingdom a lot and accept rejection by many

The Opposition of the Kingdom

Matthew 13:24-30 (The parable of the Tares)

Expectations:

Expect opposition

Expect to live and minister among rebels

Expect a day of judgment

Expect to experience the glory of God

Applications:

Beware of opposition

Live among and minister to the rebels

Patiently leave judgment to God

Worship from the thankful anticipation of future glory

The Growth of the Kingdom

³¹ He presented another parable to them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field;

³² and this is smaller than all *other* seeds; but when it is full grown, it is larger than the garden plants, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches."

Expectation: Expect a huge kingdom to grow from a very small beginning

Application: Participate in the continued growth of the kingdom (live the mission)

The Influence of the Kingdom

³³ He spoke another parable to them, "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three pecks of meal, until it was all leavened."

Expectation: Expect to influence all the people groups of the world

Application: Participate in influencing all the people groups of the world

³⁴ All these things Jesus spoke to the multitudes in parables, and He did not speak to them without a parable,

³⁵ so that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, "I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things hidden since the foundation of the world."

(The Opposition to the Kingdom Explained)

³⁶ Then He left the multitudes, and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

³⁷ And He answered and said, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man,

³⁸ and the field is the world; and *as for* the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil *one*;

³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.

⁴⁰ "Therefore just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.

⁴¹ "The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness,

⁴² and will cast them into the furnace of fire; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁴³ "Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

The Value of the Kingdom

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls,

⁴⁶ and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Expectation: Expect a life of joy and satisfaction without diversification

Application: Rejoice, don't diversify and don't wait

The Judgment of the Kingdom

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering *fish* of every kind;
⁴⁸ and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down, and gathered the good *fish* into containers, but the bad they threw away.

⁴⁹ "So it will be at the end of the age; the angels shall come forth, and take out the wicked from among the righteous,

⁵⁰ and will cast them into the furnace of fire; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Expectation: Expect a day of judgment

Application: Live the mission and be patient

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes."

⁵² And He said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a head of a household, who brings forth out of his treasure things new and old."

All Scripture is from the NASV