



WORD OF FAITH INT'L CHRISTIAN CENTER

TEACHING THE WORD. DOING THE WORK. TOUCHING THE WORLD.

The Parables of Jesus, Part 5

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Sunday, November 28, 2021

Text: Mat 13:11

Opening Summary

Jesus opened the meaning of the kingdom of God to His disciples, those who had a heart toward God. In this lesson Bishop Butler expounds on the meaning of six more parables Jesus taught. If you desire to please God and walk in His ways, this lesson is for you.

- I. Parable #3: Mat. 13:31-32, Mark 4:30-32, The Mustard Seed
 - A. A mustard seed is the smallest of all seeds.
 - B. The kingdom of heaven is the Word.
 - C. The Word of God, compared to the things in the earth, is seen as something small.
 - D. The field is your heart.
 - E. If that seed is allowed to mature, it becomes larger than all other trees.
 - F. *The seed growing is the Word taking root and growing deep* (Mark 4:20; Psa. 1:1-3).
 - G. The birds of the air are all the people in the sphere of your life. You become such a reflection of God that others around you are blessed.
 - H. Much emphasis is given primarily to the sermon on the mount, and rightfully so. But Jesus' parables should always be listed along with it, because Jesus lays out, in detail, the classic things necessary to please God.
- II. Parable #4: Mat. 13:33, Leaven
 - A. When leaven is added to the meal in the bowl, it will affect the whole bowl of meal.
 - B. The woman deliberately hid the leaven. People think since they've been around the church for decades, they're okay. Deliberately acting on the Word brings victory.
 - C. As the leaven affects the whole measure of meal, the Word of God affects your whole life, spirit, soul and body. It will cause you to have 30-, 60- and 100-fold productivity.
- III. Parable #5: Mat. 13:44, Treasure Hid in a Field
 - A. The treasure is the Word of God. The field is your heart.
 - B. Hide the Word by meditating, hearing, receiving, believing, speaking and acting on it.
 - C. He is so elated that he has discovered the secrets of the Word.
 - D. He sells all he has, because he now has what is most valuable in the world.
- IV. Parable #6: Mat. 13:45-46, The Pearl of Great Price
 - A. The pearl of great price is the Word of God. Jesus makes the same point as above. When the Scripture repeats a thing, it's telling you this is big.
 - B. In times of crisis, the only thing that will help you is the Word.
 - C. Only one out of four who hear it are good ground. As a pastor I want every person to have a great outcome with the Word. Over time you see people can be around for 25

years and not learn anything. I almost wanted to kick myself for not doing my job right. But the Lord showed me that one and four will get it.

V. Parable #7: Mat. 13:47-50, Casting a Net into the Sea (This is like the parable of the tares).

- A. You almost never hear any preaching about hell anymore these days.
- B. We don't want to offend people; we want to make it easy on them.
- C. They are not the One to whom you shall give an account. Tell them the truth whether they want to hear it or not.
- D. Mat. 13:51-52: The head of the home will bring that which is old or new for the household to prosper.
- E. That means we look at those things we have learned and study them again.
- F. The disciples are immediately tested and call for Jesus, "Don't you care?" (Mark 4:35-40).
- G. It's as if they were saying: *You must not love us because bad things are happening to us. Why are You allowing this to happen? It must be Your fault or You must be teaching us something.* Even though Jesus had just taught them about deadly circumstances. They proved they were not yet good ground (Mark 4:38).
- H. Little children will quickly forget what you tell them. You must tell them continually.
- I. Whenever you hear the Word, satan will test you.
- J. Jesus cast the devil out of a man, who later spread the word in that region (Mark 5:1-20).
- K. NOTE: It isn't God's fault when bad things happen (John 10:10).
- L. God will allow what you allow to happen (Luke 10:19; Mat. 16:19; 18:18).

VI. Parable #8: Mat. 15:1-6 Jesus answered back to people.

- A. Jesus tells them God said that cursing your father and mother is serious!
- B. Their religion nullified the effect of the Scripture.
- C. They taught people their religion. Religion is often against scripture.
- D. Mat. 15:7-11: Their heart is not toward God, but toward man's commands.
- E. Mat. 15:12-14: Jesus' response to offending the Pharisees.
- F. Mat. 15:13-20: In verse 16, the heart also refers to that which proceeds from thoughts.
- G. Eph. 6:1-3: The first commandment with a reward to was about honoring your parents.
- H. If I know my parents need something, I'm going to take care of it.
- I. Honor is also speaking that which is holy, righteous and just.

VII. Mat. 12:33-35: Depositing into your heart is putting the Word in it. Withdraw the Word when you need it. It's like depositing money in your bank account. Withdraw it when you need it.

- A. Mat. 12:36: Idle means useless and empty – anything that doesn't agree with the Word.
- B. Judgment (Gk. Crisis) also refers to when satan comes to try the Word in you.
- C. Very important: I am sowing the Word of God into you. But that is not enough.
- D. You must take it home and meditate it, speak it over yourself, get it into your heart, act on it so you can become good ground.
- E. If you don't, when the storm comes, you'll be blown away (Heb. 6:12). Don't be lazy.
- F. Mat. 12:37: *Justified* means *made free, righteous*.
- G. The Pharisees have all the outside looks, but their hearts are not toward God.
- H. The more they speak the more they defile their hearts. Everything is a circle.
 - 1. What you say circles back to yourself (James 5:12; 3:3).

2. When you say you can, then you can; When you say you can't, then you can't.
3. Jesus is reeducating the disciples.

VIII. Mat. 15:20: Outward religious practices don't defile a man.

- A. Traditionally, churches take communion once a month. The scripture doesn't say how often to take communion. Practices have become tradition.
- B. Generation after generation have added more to the tradition. It even came to a point of locking up the Bible and saying only certain people can read it.
- C. Know why you do what you do.
- D. It should be because you honor God.

Closing Summary

In the parables Jesus taught, you can find the key to answered prayer for yourself and those within your sphere of influence. Deliberately put the Word of God in your heart. When you do, it will be there when you come face to face with temptations, tests, and trials. At that time, the only thing that will matter is the Word of God manifest on your behalf.