
Matthew 13 Parables

— Session 6 - The Private Parables —

Matthew 13:44-52



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The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- Jesus did not explain the meaning, so we should be cautious with our interpretation. The elements will be consistent across this set of parables.
- Two familiar elements Jesus already identified:
 1. **man** ~ the “Son of Man” – Jesus Himself (Matt 13:37)
 2. **field** ~ “the world” (Matt 13:38)



The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- **treasure** (*thēsauros*) ~ “a place in which valuables are kept,” a storehouse, repository, or treasury.
- God speaks of Israel as His **treasured possession** (Exod 19:5; Deut 7:6; 14:2; 26:18; Ps 135:4; Mal 3:17).
- God chose Israel to represent Him, to be a **repository** for His Word, and an example of a godly nation.
- But Israel had failed and had been hidden for more than 700 years.



The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- **hidden** (*kruptō*) ~ “kept secret or concealed.”
- Jesus **found** the treasure ~ “He came unto His own...” (John 1:11)
- Then he **hid the treasure again** ~ “...but His own received Him not.”
- God rejoices when Israel is redeemed (Deut 30:9; Isa 62:4-5; 65:19).
- The main emphasis in this parable is the man’s extreme act of self-sacrifice in order to obtain the field.



The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- “**buys** that field” (*agorazō*) ~ to purchase in the marketplace.
- Also, **redemption** provided by Christ’s death on the cross (1 Cor 6:20; 7:23; 2 Pet 2:1; Rev 5:9, 14:3-4).
- The purchase price for the field was the very life of Christ.
- Jesus bought, not just the **treasure**, but the entire **field** which represents the whole world (John 1:29; 2 Cor 5:19; 1 Tim 4:10; 1 John 2:2).



The Parable of the Pearl of Great Price

- **merchant** (*emporos*) ~ a traveling wholesale dealer in fine pearls.
- **selling all that he has** ~ a picture of Jesus' act of redemption.
- Jesus previously hinted at the salvation of Gentiles (Matt 12:15-21, 38-42; Luke 2:30-32)
- **pearl** ~ more prized by the Gentiles. Jesus used it as a symbol of something precious for which He would also sacrifice everything.
- The redemption which Jesus provided was sufficient, not only for His people Israel, but also for believing Gentiles.
- At the beginning of the age during which the kingdom is postponed, Jesus will give the ultimate sacrifice to purchase both His treasured people as well as "taking from among the Gentiles a people for His name" (Acts 15:14-18).

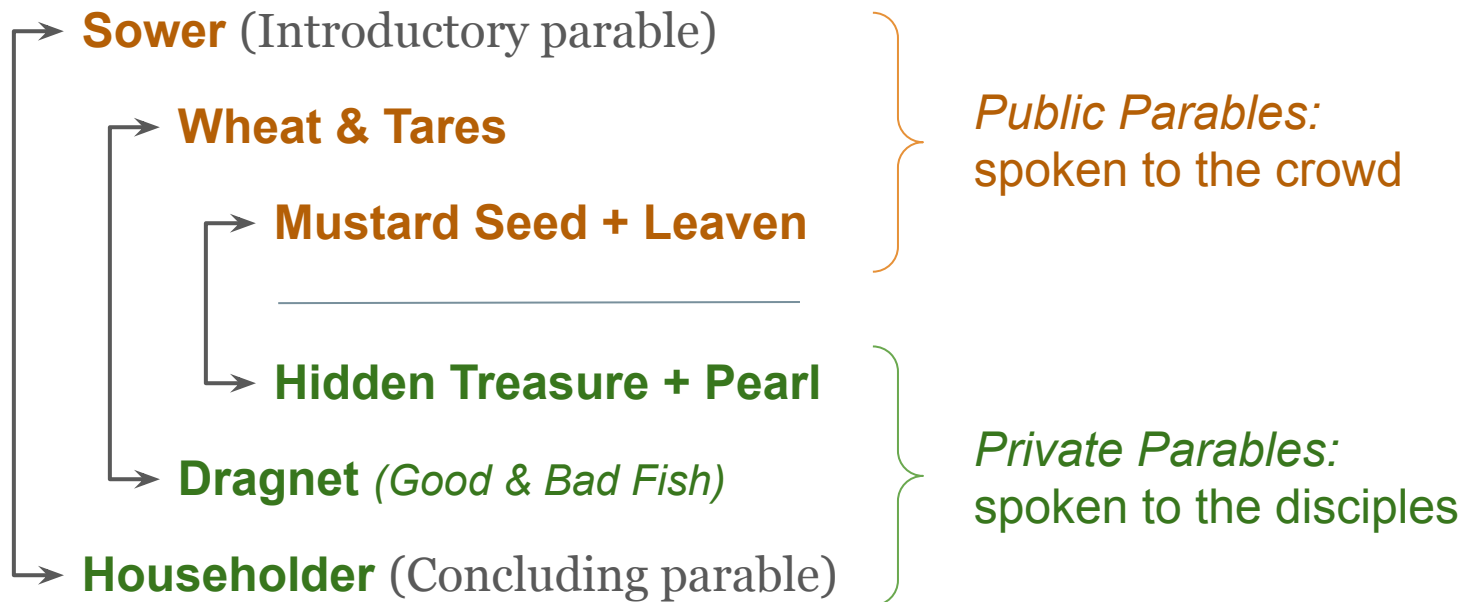
The Parable of the Dragnet

- **dragnet** (*sagēnē*) ~ a large net that fishermen would drag through the water between two boats.
- It could take several hours for many men to drag the net onto the beach.
- **bad** (*sapros*) ~ “of poor quality, unfit for use, or worthless” but it can also mean “rotten or putrefied.”
- **judgment** ~ angels will take the wicked from among the righteous and will throw them into the furnace of fire.



Events	Wheat & Tares	Dragnet
Good and evil grow side-by-side	v38 - the good seed , these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; (<i>good & bad</i>)	v47 - a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind (<i>good & bad</i>)
Separation of good from evil at the culmination	v30 - in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn."	v48 - 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.
End of the Age ~ Gathering of the wicked	v40 - So shall it be at the end of the age. v41 - Son of Man will send forth His angels , and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness	v49 - So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous
Judgment of the wicked	v42 - and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth	v50 - and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
Righteous enter the kingdom	v43 - Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father.	<i>(not mentioned)</i>

Relationship between these parables



The Parable of the Householder

- “Have you **understood** all these things?” (*sunīēmi*) ~ to put together mentally or to comprehend. “**Therefore**” – because they understood.
- **scribe** (*grammateus*) who is has become a **disciple** (*mathēteuō*) ~ a learner and dedicated follower of Jesus who is able to correctly interpret God’s Word while teaching others.
- **head of a household** (*oikodespotēs*) ~ the leader or final authority in the household; the one who controls the distribution of resources.
- “**brings out of his treasure things new and old**” ~ the new kingdom mysteries taught in these parables must be considered alongside Old Testament kingdom truth in order to understand God’s overall kingdom program and plan.