

# **Behold Your King!**

*Studies in the Gospel of Matthew*

## **The King Speaks in Parables**

**Matthew 13**

**Lesson 9**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*  
*February 26, 2012*

# The Gospel of Matthew

- ▶ The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ
  - Genesis 2:4 and 5:1
- ▶ The development of the Promise
  - Genesis 3:15; 12:1-3, 7; 2 Samuel 7
  - The Person and Work of Jesus Christ
- ▶ A book of transition
  - O.T. looks for a Kingdom with Messiah as visible ruler on earth
  - A Divine secret (13:35)

# The Kingdom of Heaven

- ▶ Hoped for – Promised
- ▶ Hidden – the Church Age
- ▶ Hybrid – Millennial Kingdom
- ▶ Holy – Eternal Kingdom of Heaven

# Matthew

- ▶ 5 Discourses/Sermons

- ▶ Narrative

- Reveals Christ and reveals opposition which converge at the Cross
- Matthew 16:21 – begin to focus on the Cross

- ▶ First 3 Discourses:

- Sermon on the Mount – character of the Kingdom of Heaven
- Commissions the Twelve – missionary discourse
- Parables – the hidden Kingdom of Heaven

# Secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven

- ▶ 7 parables and reason for using parables
- ▶ Parable of Sower (13:1-23)
  - parable; explanation; interpretation
- ▶ Kingdom parables (13:24-43) – 3 parables
  - parables; explanation; interpretation
- ▶ Kingdom parables (13:44-52) – 3 parables
  - parables; interpretation; explanation
- ▶ Hidden Messiah (13:53-58)
  - Is not this the carpenter's son?

# Family of Jesus

## ▶ Matthew 12:46-50

- Who is *My* family?
- Those who do the will of the Father in heaven – cf. Matt. 6:10; 7:21

## ▶ Matthew 13:53-58

- Is not this His family?
- His family are an obstacle to recognizing Him for Who He is.

# Parables

- ▶ Teaching many things in parables – παραβολή
- ▶ Story made up as a tool for teaching truth
- ▶ More limited meaning than allegory

# Parable of Sower (13:1-9)

- ▶ Broadcasting the seed
- ▶ Hard soil – vulnerable to birds so no chance to grow
- ▶ Stony – no endurance in the heat of the sun
- ▶ Thorny – competition by thorns chokes out growth
- ▶ Good soil – prepared



## Why parables? (13:10-17)

- ▶ The issue is the “secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven.”
- ▶ Reveal to those who are blessed (13:16)
- ▶ Conceal from those under wrath (Isaiah 6:9)
- ▶ Many prophets and righteous people longed to see
- ▶ The Kingdom is hidden from the world
- ▶ An age of faith – walk by faith, not sight

# Parable of Sower Explained (13:18-23)

- ▶ Pathway – no understanding – the evil one
- ▶ Stony – joyful reception overcome by trials
- ▶ Thorns – worldly cares and deceitfulness of riches
- ▶ Good soil – hears and understands; fruitful
- ▶ Two categories of people – (7:13-27; 10:32-42)

# Parable of Tares/Weeds (13:24-30)

- ▶ Two kinds of seed: Good seed and weeds
- ▶ Two sowers: Master of the house and an enemy
- ▶ Grain plants and weeds – superficially similar
- ▶ “Weed the field!”
- ▶ Master – “Wait”
- ▶ Separate at the harvest time
- ▶ Interpretation deferred

# Parable of Mustard Seed (13:31-32)

- ▶ Smallest of all seeds – seemingly insignificant
- ▶ A tree that birds can nest in
- ▶ A great kingdom with world wide dominion  
(Ezekiel 17:23 and Daniel 4:12, 20-22)

# Parable of Leaven (13:33)

- ▶ Leaven depicts evil in the Bible – evil in the Kingdom?
- ▶ Exceptions: Leviticus 7:13–14; 23:17
- ▶ Leaven depicts the Kingdom
- ▶ Hidden, but valuable – salt and light (5:13-16)

# Explanation (13:34-35)

- ▶ Psalm 78:2 – parables; things hidden since creation
- ▶ A new era, previously un-revealed

# Parable of Weeds Explained (13:36-43)

- ▶ Field is the world
- ▶ Son of Man – sows people to grow
- ▶ Enemy is the Devil – sows people to oppose
- ▶ The resolution is future
  - All that cause sin and do evil – into the fiery furnace
  - Righteous will shine like the sun
- ▶ Ears to hear. . .

# Hidden Treasure (13:44)

- ▶ A surprise finding
- ▶ Hidden – a great treasure
- ▶ Sold all and bought the field



# Pearl of Great Value (13:45-46)

- ▶ Searching for fine pearls
- ▶ A pearl of great value
- ▶ Sells all and buys the pearl
- ▶ Sufficiency of the hidden Kingdom

# A Fishing Net (13:47-50)

- ▶ Kingdom of Heaven is like a fishing net
- ▶ Gathers fish of every kind – literally: “all races”
- ▶ Kingdom is the world
- ▶ Contains good and bad fish
- ▶ Separation made at end of age
- ▶ Eternal wrath

# A Proverb or Short Parable (13:51-52)

- ▶ Understanding – the issue in 13:11-16 and 18-23
- ▶ Scribe trained for the Kingdom of heaven
- ▶ Like a master of a house
- ▶ Brings out of his treasure, both new and old

# The Hidden Savior (13:53-58)

- ▶ Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works?
- ▶ They stumbled at Him because of His common family
- ▶ Jesus in the hidden Kingdom of heaven

# Revelation of the Hidden Kingdom

- ▶ The family of God
- ▶ Knowing God
- ▶ An immense Kingdom
- ▶ Great value
- ▶ Christ our example
- ▶ A coming exposure