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.
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
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)
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