

A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a dirt road with tire tracks leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. The terrain is sandy and sparsely covered with small, dry bushes. In the background, a range of rugged, brown mountains stretches across the horizon under a pale, overcast sky. The overall mood is desolate and expansive.

The Gospel of Matthew

WHY DID THE KING COME BUT NOT THE KINGDOM?

Outline to the book of Matthew:

I. The King Has Come 1:1-13:53

1. *The Incarnation and the preparation of the King 1:1 – 4:11*
2. *The Declaration of the Principles of the King 4:12 – 7:29*
3. *The Manifestation of the King 8:1 – 11:1*
4. *The Opposition to the King 11:2 – 13:53*

II. The Kingdom Has Not 13:54-28:20

5. *The Reaction of the King, 13:54 – 19:2*
6. *The Formal Presentation and Rejection of the King, 19:3 – 25:46*
7. *The Crucifixion and the Resurrection of the King, 26:1 – 28:20*

***Subpoints follow Stanley Toussaint's seven main divisions outlined in his commentary.

I. THE KING HAS COME 1:1 – 13:53

4. The Opposition to the King 11:2 – 13:53

(Matthew 13:1-53)

“Understanding what God has revealed”

Outline –

1. Biblical usage of parables
2. Context of Matthew 13 parables
3. Structure of Matthew 13 parables

1- Biblical usage of parables

A. Lexical Background:

- Compound word “παρα” alongside + “βαλλω” to cast or to throw = To throw alongside.
- Glosses:
 - 1) someth. that serves as a model or example pointing beyond itself for later realization, type, figure. (BDAG)
 - 2) a narrative or saying of varying length, designed to illustrate a truth especially through comparison or simile, comparison, illustration, parable, proverb, maxim. (BDAG)

1- Biblical usage of parables

B. Function of parables:

- To illustrate clear teaching (cf. Mt. 13:10-11)
- To conceal revelation (cf. Mt. 13:10-11)
- To avoid greater culpability (cf. Mt. 13:12)
- To judge Israel (cf. Mt. 13:12-13)
- To fulfill prophecy/Confirm Jesus' Messiahship (cf. Mt. 13:14-15)

* The above is taken from Dane Roger's breakout session in Duluth.

1- Biblical usage of parables

C. Rules for parables:

- 1) The author's argument is prioritized over theological comparison.
- 2) The reality behind the parable must be understood.
(ex. Agricultural imagery, wedding imagery)
- 3) Details must not be unnecessarily stressed
(especially over the main point).
- 4) Context is king!

A Warning! DO NOT read your theology into parables!

Comments on the parable of the hidden treasure:

“The kingdom of heaven is worth infinitely more than the cost of discipleship, and those who know where the treasure lies, joyfully abandon everything else to secure it”

- D. A. Carson “Expositor’s Bible Commentary” 8:391

A Warning! DO NOT read your theology into parables!

“In both parables the priceless object was bought at the expense of every possession the finder owned. For that reason some Christians feel uncomfortable about these parables, because they seem to teach that salvation can be bought. But from the beginning to end, Scripture makes abundantly clear that salvation is totally the free gift of God. Yet, interpreted in the right way, salvation is bought in the sense that the person who accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior surrenders everything he has to him.

- John MacArthur “Matthew” 2:389-90)

Outline –

1. Biblical usage of parables
2. Context of Matthew 13 parables
3. Structure of Matthew 13 parables

2- Context of Matthew 13 parables

I. The King Has Come 1:1-13:53:

1. The Incarnation and the preparation of the King 1:1
2. The Declaration of the Principles of the King 4:12 – 7:29
3. The Manifestation of the King 8:1 – 11:1
4. The Opposition to the King 11:2 – 13:53

2- Context of Matthew 13 parables

1. The Incarnation and the preparation of the King

- The genetics of the Messiah ch. 1
- The Shechinah glory dwelling with man chs. 1-2
- The fulfillment of Messianic prophecy chs. 2-4
- The preparation of the Messiah ch. 4

2- Context of Matthew 13 parables

2. The Declaration of the Principles of the King

- The kingdom ministry begins ch. 4
- Exposing Rabbinic fences chs. 5-7

2- Context of Matthew 13 parables

3. The Manifestation of the King

- Teaching, healing, casting out demons.
- Preparing disciples and sending them out.

4. The Opposition to the King

- The forerunner rejected 11:2-15
- That generation's rejection 11:16-19
- Rebuking the rejecting cities 11:20-24
- Invitation to come to Jesus 11:25-30
- Jesus accused of breaking the Sabbath 12:1-13
- Divided opinion 12:14-21
- The Pharisees commit unpardonable sin 12:22-30
- Judgment pronounced on that generation 12:31-45
- Instruction to continue following Jesus 12:46-50

2- Context of Matthew 13 parables

Summary:

- Jesus is God incarnate.
- Jesus is offering the prophesied kingdom to Israel.
- Many followed Him.
- The religious leaders opposed Him.
- That generation rejected Him.
- That generation was condemned.
- Matthew 13 parables will address these realities and the relationship to the kingdom program.

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3- Structure of Matthew 13 parables

- 1) The Soils vv. 1-23
- 2) The Wheat and Tares vv. 24-30; 36-43
- 3) The Mustard Seed vv. 31-32
- 4) The Leaven vv. 33-35
- 5) The Hidden Treasure v. 44
- 6) The Pearl of Great Price vv. 45-46
- 7) The Dragnet vv. 47-50
- 8) The Householder vv. 51-53

Public parables:

- 1) The Soils vv. 1-23
- 2) The Wheat and Tares vv. 24-30; 36-43
- 3) The Mustard Seed vv. 31-32
- 4) The Leaven vv. 33-35

Private parables:

- 1) The Hidden Treasure v. 44
- 2) The Pearl of Great Price vv. 45-46
- 3) The Dragnet vv. 47-50
- 4) The Householder vv. 51-53

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- 1) The Soils vv. 1-23
- 2) The Wheat and Tares vv. 24-30; 36-43
- 3) The Mustard Seed vv. 31-32
- 4) The Leaven vv. 33-35
- 5) The Hidden Treasure v. 44
- 6) The Pearl of Great Price vv. 45-46
- 7) The Dragnet vv. 47-50
- 8) The Householder vv. 51-53

Summary/Application

- All Scripture is God-breathed and Mt. 13 is Scripture.
- Parables are a part of God's revelation.
- Parables are challenging but not impossible to understand.
- Context is always king!
- Over the coming weeks we will apply sound Bible study methods and these rules and better understand God's revelation.



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