

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 13:31-35)

*“Motivated by God’s Movement”*

## 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!

## The Context:

- The parable of the soils describes the various responses to the kingdom.
- The parable of the wheat and tares describes the judgment for those who reject the kingdom and the deliverance for those who receive it.
- All of these parables are in the context of the kingdom ministry, and the unpardonable sin.

## Outline –

### 1. The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment

vv.31-32

### 2. The Inability of Kingdom Establishment

vv. 33-35

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

### ➤ The Text:

- The planting v. 31
  - 1) The kingdom of heaven is like
  - 2) A mustard seed
  - 3) Which a man took and sowed in his field



## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

### ➤ The Text:

- The planting v. 31
- The establishment v. 32a-32b
  - 1) Least of all the seeds
  - 2) When grown, it is greater than the herbs
  - 3) Becomes a tree

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

### ➤ The Text:

- The planting v. 31
- The establishment v. 32a-32b
- The result v. 32c
  - 1) Birds of the air come and nest in its branches

# 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

## Common views:

- 1) Spiritual kingdom (Christendom)
- 2) Mystery form of the kingdom (includes Christendom)
  - Positive growth
  - Negative growth
- 3) The period of time between the advents.

# 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

## Important questions:

- What is a mustard seed?
- What does the growth represent?
- What is implied by the birds nesting?
- What contextual help for interpreting?
- What

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

Important questions: What is a mustard seed?

- A small seed
- A Jewish idiom for the smallest thing.
- When matured it is a large shrub and even considered a tree, growing 10-12 ft. tall.

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

Questions: What does the growth represent?

- There is a least to great growth pattern.
- This growth can essentially be interpreted as positive or negative.

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

Questions: What is implied by the birds nesting?

- Ezekiel 17:22-24 (Read)
- Ezekiel 31:3-14 (Read)
- Daniel 4:10-27 (depicts Neb's power and kingdom)
- Judges 9:7-15 (parable: tree likened to a kingdom)
- Psalm 104:12 (God creates home for birds in trees)

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

Questions: What context help for interpreting?

- In the first 2 parables the seed represented as good.
- The first parable describes the response to the kingdom message.
- The second parable describes the judgment and deliverance at the end of the age.



## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

Questions: What context help for interpreting?

- No explanation or identifier for mustard seed is given (retains established meaning)
  - \* Except it is identified as a mustard seed rather than wheat seed.
- The nearest referent for “seed” is “sons of the kingdom”
- The “field” in the first 2 parables is the world.

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

Questions: What is the parable's meaning?

- The Kingdom program (when offered) has a small beginning but will culminate into everything God promised about the kingdom. (after this age. Cf. parable of the wheat and tares.)

## 1- The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment vv.31-32

### ➤ The point:

- The planting v. 31
  - The SoM initiated the kingdom's establishment.
- The establishment v. 32a-32b
  - The kingdom will be established later
- The result v. 32c
  - The kingdom will be established acc. to prophecy.

## Outline –

### 1. The Inevitability of Kingdom Establishment

vv.31-32

### 2. The Inability of Kingdom Establishment

vv. 33-35

## 2- The Inability of Kingdom Establishment vv. 33-35

### ➤ The text:

1. The tool v. 33b
2. The action v. 33c
3. The result v. 33d
4. The fulfillment of prophecy vv. 34-35 (cf. Ps. 78)

## 2- The Inability of Kingdom Establishment vv. 33-35

Questions: Is Leaven good or bad?

- Often represents evil (e.g., Ex. 12:15; Lev. 2:11; 6:17; 10:12; Mt. 16:6, 11–12; Mk. 8:15; Lk. 12:1; 1 Cor. 5:7–8; Gal. 5:8–9)
- Note Matthew 16:5-6, 11-12

## 2- The Inability of Kingdom Establishment vv. 33-35

### ➤ The point:

1. The tool of opposition v. 33b
  - The teaching of the religious leaders.
2. The opposition v. 33c
  - Their doctrine hindered the kingdom message.
3. The result of opposition v. 33d
  - Their doctrine spread throughout.

## Application/Summary:

- The kingdom will be established as promised.
- The kingdom was unable to be established because of bad teaching.
- How does bad teaching hinder God's work in our lives?
- Believers must be rooted in the word of God.
- Believers must trust in God's plan and God's timing.







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