

The Parable of the Dragnet



Matthew 13:47-50

○ **Review Lessons Taught:**

- **In Matthew 13:10, Jesus began using parables to teach about the kingdom of heaven. His disciples noticed the change in His method of teaching, and asked Him the question, “Why do You speak to them in parables?”**
- **According to Mark 4:34, “Jesus did not say anything to them without using a parable and when He was alone with His disciples He would explain what He meant.”**
- **Purpose: to assist us in growing in our understanding by exploring these divine truths found in Christ’s teaching. To teach us what they mean and how they relate to our present and future life in Christ Jesus.**
- **Goal: to allow the Holy Spirit speak to our hearts and draw us closer to Jesus Christ.**

1. What is a parable?

- **It is a simple yet powerful story that Jesus used to illustrate a great truth. Jesus used parables to help His followers understand spiritual truths.**
- **The word “parable” is taken from the Greek word that literally means to cast or throw alongside.**
- **Parables were stories that were “cast or thrown” alongside a truth in order to illustrate a divine truth.**

2. The Parable of the Sower. (Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23)

3. The Parable of the Wheat and The Weeds (Matthew 13:24-30)

4. The Parable of the Mustard Seed. (Matthew 13:31-32)

5. The Parable of the Leaven (Matthew 13:33, Luke 13:20-21)

6. The Parable of the Hidden Treasure (Matthew 13:44)

7. The Parable of the Pearl of Great Price” (Matthew 13:45-46)

The Parable of the Dragnet

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- Jesus again uses a parable to describe the Kingdom of heaven and the future events that shall take place in the world at the end of the Tribulation period. (Matthew 13:47-50)
- A. The purpose of this parable is to remind every believer of Four Things: (Matthew 13:47-50)
1. The Church Mission. (Matthew 28:18-20, Luke 19:10, Luke 14:23)
 2. The Church Mandate. (John 4:34-38)
 3. The Church Message. (Mark 16:15-16, Romans 1:16-17, 10:9-10, 13, 1Corinthians 15:1-4)
 4. The Church Ministry. (2 Corinthians 4:1-6, 5:18-20)
- B. The perspective of this parable is to remind us that Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation, redemption and eternal life. (John 5:24, 14:6, Acts 4:12, 1 Corinthians 3:11)
1. We must share the gospel message of Jesus Christ.
 2. We must continue to point people to Jesus Christ.
 3. We must “urge or warn” them that Jesus Christ is soon to come.
 4. We must continue to “cast or throw” out the net. In other words, keep sharing Christ’s Kingdom message, and never allow anyone or anything discourage you.
- The joy is that many will be brought into the Kingdom of heaven from every nation, tribe, people and language. (Revelation 7:9-10, 1 Corinthians 3:6-9)
- C. Jesus reveals through this parable some of the most essential elements of the kingdom of Heaven. (vs. 47-48)
1. The “net” represents Christ’s gospel message.
 2. The “fishermen” represents Jesus Christ and His true followers.
 3. The “fish” represents both believers and unbelievers who are caught in the net.

- D. Jesus knew the disciples could easily relate to this parable since some of them were fishermen by trade.**
- 1. The kingdom of Heaven is like a large net cast into the sea that collects every kind of fish. (vs. 47)**
 - 2. The large “net” is cast into the sea...” (vs. 47)**
 - The large “net” is the gospel of the kingdom.**
 - 3. The large net that is “cast” represents kingdom believers who carry Christ’s message of love, hope, forgiveness, redemption and the promise of eternal life.**
 - 4. The “sea” represents the world and all the depths of darkness within it.**
 - a. Jesus Christ is the God-Man. He was 100% God and 100% Man, who was sent by God into the world to save humanity from the curse of sin which was death. (John 3:16-17, Romans 6:23, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:24)**
 - Through Jesus Christ mankind can be forgiven of their sins, receive eternal life and live in the presence of God forever.**
 - Without Jesus Christ mankind will remain lost and die in their sins and trespasses, receive eternal judgment and be separated from God forever.**