

“Life Stories: Kingdom Parables”

Matthew 13

The following two parables used by Jesus provide some keen insight into God’s plan of salvation (sower) and Satan’s attempts to thwart it (tares). Observe and see what you might discover. And who knows, it just might preach.

I. The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23) – The Message of Salvation

A. The Introduction of the Parable (13:3-9)

1. The Roadside Soil (13:4 “some seeds fell beside the road”)
2. The Rocky Soil (13:5-6 “they had no root, they withered”)
3. The Ruined Soil (13:7 “thorns came up and choked them out”)
4. The Rich Soil (13:8 “yielded a crop: hundred, sixty, thirty fold”)

B. The Interpretation of the Parable (13:18-23)

1. The Waywardness of Some (13:18-19 “hear without understanding”)
2. The Weakness of Some (13:20-21 “received; no root, fall away”)
3. The Worldliness of Some (13:22 “worry, wealth, want, chokes the word”)
4. The Willingness of Some (13:23 “bears fruit...hundred, sixty and thirty”)

II. The Parable of the Tares (Matthew 13:24-30) - The Malice of Satan

A. The Sowing (13:24-25) - much seed sown.

1. The Pure Seed (13:24 “a man sowed good seed in his field”)
2. The Poisonous Weed (13:25 “his enemy sowed tares among the wheat”)

B. The Growing (13:26-28a) - many plants grown.

1. The Exposure of the Presence of the Weeds (13:26 “the tares become evident also”)
2. The Explanation of the Presence of the Weeds (13:27-28a “An enemy has done this!”)

C. The Mowing (13:28b-30) - most plants destroyed.

1. The Proposal (13:28b “should the servants remove the weeds?”)
2. The Prospect (13:29-30 “both grow together until harvest...”)

John 4:36 says, “Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.” —