

11/1/20

Recap of 10/25/20 message (Joe Ricchuiti – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43):

1. Throughout the Book of Matthew, he has been presenting evidence that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah. Matthew chapters twelve and thirteen mark a turning point in Jesus ministry. In chapter 12 the Jewish religious leaders attribute the power, works, and miracles of Jesus to Satan, saying the Jesus did these things in the power of Satan (the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit). In light of their rejection of Him, Jesus begins to teach in parables in a greater way and begins to reveal the “secrets” (better translated “mysteries” of the Kingdom). Biblical mysteries are not something secret or mysterious, but rather they are things which were unknown in the Old Testament but being revealed in the New Testament (Ephesians 3:5,6; Colossians 1:24-27). They were rejecting their King and so were rejecting the Kingdom. The parables of Matthew 13 were meant to explain what would happen during this time of delay. The parable of the wheat and the weeds is one of those parables.

-“...the things of God were made more plain and easy to them who were willing to be taught, and at the same time more difficult and obscure to those who were willingly ignorant.” (M. Henry)

-“The parables of the kingdom of heaven show the direction of the kingdom after Israel’s rejection of it until the king returns to establish the kingdom of heaven on earth.” (McGee)

-“The time period covered by the parables in Matthew 13 extends from the time of Israel’s rejection until Israel’s future reception of the Messiah. This means this program began while Christ was still on the earth, and it will extend until His return to the earth when He comes in power and great glory.” (Pentecost)

2. The sower of the good seed is Jesus Himself, the field is the world (the place where ministry takes place), the good seed are the sons of the kingdom (believers); the weeds are the sons of Satan (unbelievers). The wheat and the weeds would grow up together until the harvest at the end of the age (which follows the tribulation) before Christ establishes the Millennial Kingdom. The angels will gather up the wicked and they will be thrown into judgment. The righteous will be gathered into the Millennial Kingdom.

-“The children of Satan look as much like the children of God as tares look like wheat. Only the angels can separate them.” (Gray) Satan sows false teachers in the church (2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Peter 2:1)-“Jesus recognized only two classes, the saved and the lost. Again and again He spoke of the miseries of the lost, their ‘weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ He surely knew what He was talking about.” (Halley)

“Seventy Times Seven”

Matthew 18:21-35

November 1, 2020 – Joe Ricchuiti, Senior Pastor

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