

**SCRIPTURE**  
**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW**

**CHAPTER 13**

**COMMENTARY**

**CHAPTER 13**

The ministry of Jesus began when He was about 30 years of age.

It lasted approximately 3 years.

Mt. Chapter 13 verses 1 to 53 takes place approximately **24 months after He began His ministry.**

**General information.**  
**Parables**

There are approximately 39 parables that Jesus spoke.

20 are in Matthew's Gospel. 10 of the 20 are unique to Matthew's Gospel.

9 are in Mark's Gospel. 2 of the 9 are unique to Mark's Gospel.

27 are in Luke's Gospel. 17 of the 27 are unique to Luke's Gospel.

The purpose of the parables (or riddles) was that those whose heart was open to God, these would understand.

However those whose heart was hard, such as the religious leaders of that time, these would not understand what He was saying.

**Mt 13:1.** (On) The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat (or was sitting) by the sea (or lake) side.

**Mt 13:1.** Back in Mt 12:15, Jesus had moved to another location. Then He taught. That teaching concluded at Mt 12:50.

That is the reason nothing is mentioned about his mother and family outside as stated in Mt 12:46.

There appears to be a time gap of perhaps 1 month between Mt 12:50 and Mt 13:1. In this verse, Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea side.

This would have been at **the Sea of Galilee**, and the house may have been Peter's in Capernaum.

Jesus spoke several **parables** in Matthew's Gospel. The first 4 were given with many people present. This ended in verse 35.

After that (reference verse number 36), Jesus spoke the last 3 parables to his disciples in a house. This ended in verse 51.

The Scriptures (in general) reveal the devil, along with the world, and the flesh  
**can drown out the Gospel.**

The cares of this life,  
the deceitfulness of riches,  
the lusts of all sorts of things,  
and the pleasures of this world have most people so entangled like a spider's web that few can ever break free.

And what is the best way to deceive? Make a person believe they are not deceived at all.

Religious deception (including approximately 25,000 cults and false christs), abound.

False Bible doctrines, and a lukewarm, wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked presentation of the Bible means in this current Bible generation, there will be few that will inherit eternal life, but many, many, many believe they will.

Read your Bible. See if these things be so, and then repent.

The Sea of Galilee is approximately 13 miles long and 8.1 miles wide at its widest point. Its maximum depth is said to be 141 feet. It is approximately 686 feet below sea level. It is the lowest fresh water lake on earth. The Golan Heights is on the eastern side. It is said that if you walked around the lake you would cover 38 miles. A beautiful boat ride across part of it is included in most Israeli tours.

Boats of all kinds can be seen on the lake.

Various kinds of water sports can also be seen on the Sea of Galilee. Many craft are parked at the Tiberius boat docks.

The waters for this lake come from the northern Jordan River, which in turn comes from the snows on the top of Mt. Hermon. The Sea of Galilee then flows into the southern Jordan River, which flows into the Dead Sea. Just south of the point that the Sea of Galilee flows into the southern Jordan, is a popular place where millions of tourists have been taken and many got baptized.

Some believe the Sea of Galilee would have been much higher in the days of Jesus, but if it was a lot higher, Capernaum (which is partly excavated) would have been underwater.

The Sea of Galilee has also been called the sea of Chinnereth in Numbers, Chemmeroth in Joshua, and also the lake of Gennesaret and Tiberias.

This 13th chapter may be called a chapter of parables. Ref Mk 4:1; Lk 8:4.

As has been said in **Mt 13:1**, (On) The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat (or was sitting) by the sea (or lake) side.

**Mt 13:2.** There were so many people that followed Him that He could not effectively teach.

**Mt 13:2.** And great multitudes (or large crowds) were gathered together unto him, so that he

went (or got) into a ship (or boat), and sat (down) (in it); and (while) the whole multitude (or all the people) stood on the shore (or beach).

**Mt 13:3.** And (then) he spake (or told) many things unto them in **parables**, saying, Behold, a sower (or farmer) went forth to sow (his seed);

So He entered into a boat and sat down.

There was now a separation from the multitude of people, so He could now teach.

When the numbers of the people that heard Him were given, their numbers were sometimes in the thousands.

They did not even begin to comprehend that this was God, and that by Him and through Him were all things created.

**At this time, Jesus begins a series of 7 parables.**

1. **Mt 13:3. The parable of the sower.**  
Numbers 2 through 7 all cover the subject of what the kingdom of heaven is like.
2. **Mt 13:24. The seed in the field. The good and bad grow together.**
3. **Mt 13:31. Mustard seed.**
4. **Mt 13:33. Leaven.**
5. **Mt 13:44. Treasure.**
6. **Mt 13:45. Merchantman.**
7. **Mt 13:47. Net.**

Ps 119:105-Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:2.** And great multitudes (or large crowds) were gathered together unto him, so that he went (or got) into a ship (or boat), and sat (down) (in it); and (while) the whole multitude (or all the people) stood on the shore (or beach).

**Mt 13:3.** The way Jesus taught was very different. He taught the people using parables. The Scripture says He taught them many things in parables.

This would indicate that there were many things that He taught that are not included in the Scriptures.

Jn 21:25-And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

A parable is a kind of riddle. However, it cannot be **correctly** understood by people **unless God opens their understanding**.

The number of parables Jesus spoke appears to be 34.

The idea of a **parable** is to make a side by side comparison. That comparison is between something that is understood versus something that is not understood

A brief story symbolizing or illustrating some truth or meaning by use of a comparison is given. The use of events to represent ideas or principles may be given.

God's understanding **is not open** to the unrepentant.

God's understanding is not open to the wise and prudent, and prideful.

The bible is like a road map. It gives the exact directions to a person on how to get to heaven.

But the Bible is like a road map in a foreign language.

to the unrepentant,  
and to the rich,  
and to the famous,  
to the wise,  
and to the self-centered.

The people that hear a parable, but have not humbled themselves and repented, their understanding of a parable is distorted.

They may think they understand, but their

understanding is like trying to look through heavy smoke. Their vision and understanding is blurred.

Jesus spoke in parables. The humble and repentant can understand. All others cannot.

The humble can understand, but the religious leaders in the days of Jesus were left in the dark.

So, through Jesus speaking in parables, those to whom it was given to understand would understand, but to the rest, they were left in confusion.

The word "parable" or "parables" is first used in Mt 13:3.

In Mark's Gospel, it is first used in Mk 3:23.

In Luke's Gospel, it is first used in 5:36.

In John's Gospel, it is used one time, in 10:6.

As has been said in **Mt 13:2**, And great multitudes (or large crowds) were gathered together unto him, so that he went (or got) into a ship (or boat), and sat (down) (in it); and (while) the whole multitude (or all the people) stood on the shore (or beach).

### THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

**Mt 13:3.** (Ref Mk 4:3-8; Lk 8:5-8). This is the **first of seven** parables. Regarding the first part of the verse: AND HE SPAKE MANY THINGS UNTO THEM IN PARABLES.

The reason He spoke to the multitudes in parables is given in verses 10 to 17.

There are three parables He spoke to them in a row. This one, then another that begins at verse 24,

and the third one, which begins at Mt 12:31 and ends at verse 52.

Jesus then spoke many things to the crowd. He spoke many things in **parables** or what some call riddles. This was just previously explained.

The parables would drive some away leaving them in confusion, but to some others, the parables would impart to them a desire to learn more. The heart is tested.

There comes a time in many people's lives that for some unexplained reason, they begin to seek the words of God from the Bible. Some persist and ultimately become saved. Others give up easily.

Others are foolishly confident they are saved, yet they do not know or understand the Word of God.

For some that time never comes, as their heart is hard toward Jesus, Who is love.

To many, the Bible and its **parables** are a closed book. They cannot understand them. They begin to read the Bible, and they understand very little. They give up easily. They are discouraged. Life is the test.

The Bible is unlike any book ever written. It is the only book that has ever recorded perfectly the words of God that He spoke to man.

The parables or riddles, and the words of the Bible can be understood correctly, if a person patiently persists and seeks God with all their heart.

Deut 4:29-31-But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, **thou shalt find him**, IF thou seek him with ALL THY HEART AND with ALL THY SOUL.

When thou art in TRIBULATION, and all these things are come upon thee, even in THE

LATTER DAYS, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

(For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.

Again, the Scriptures reveal that a person's mind can be blinded regarding God's Word. He just cannot understand them.

Every saved person was blind regarding God's Word until a special miracle came.

That miracle was that God took away that veil or the obstacle that keep a person from desiring and understanding the Word of God.

2 Cor 3:13-17-And not as Moses, which put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not steadfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:

But their **minds were blinded**: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which veil is done away in Christ.

But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart.

Nevertheless **when it shall turn to the Lord**, the veil shall be taken away.

Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

Yes, the Scriptures can be difficult to understand, but if a person persists and seeks Jesus, the blindness a person has regarding the Bible can be taken away. At first, the light appears slowly, but then increases and increases as a person's heart becomes transformed.



**Mt 13:4.** And when he sowed (or was scattering the seed), some seeds fell by the way side (or beside the road) (or path), and the fowls (or birds) came and devoured (or ate) them up:

**Mt 13:5.** (And) Some (others) fell upon (the)

The second part of the verse is the beginning of the parable of the sower.

It is written: BEHOLD, A SOWER WENT FORTH TO SOW. This is as a farmer going forth to plant seeds in the ground. The seed represents the Bible, the Word of God.

Regretfully, most churches are experts at telling stories in the pulpits, but they are biblically illiterate, when it comes to preaching the actual words of God.

As has been said in **Mt 13:3**, And (then) he spake (or told) many things unto them in **parables**, saying, Behold, a sower (or farmer) went forth to sow (his seed);

**Mt 13:4. The Wayside heart,**  
or out of the way heart.

This parable uses an agriculture setting by using the word "seed."

The seed represents **God's Word**.

The heart determines a person reaction.

The hearts used in this verse are the following.

Along the curb heart.

The side of the road heart.

The side of the way heart.

The Word was distorted to them as it is with most people.

As a result, the **demonic realm** was able to take the Word of God out of a person's heart as fast as it went in.

The person with the wayside heart has no response to the Gospel. He is just not interested. He doesn't want to hear or read it.

(A side note of interest: Israel, especially along the Jordan Valley and River, in certain seasons, is packed with birds flying either south or north.)

**Mt 13:5.** The second heart is this. The seed,

stony (or rocky) places (or soil), where they had not much earth (or soil): and forthwith (or immediately) they sprung up, because they had no deepness (or depth) of earth (or soil):

**Mt 13:6.** And when the sun was (risen) (or came) up, they (the plants) were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

that is, the Word of God, was read or heard and it took root and sprung up and began to grow.

If the Word of God (which is Jesus) takes root in a person and begins to grow, they become saved.

However, the person's **heart had many stones**. The depth of the good dirt in them was not very deep. There was not much softness in their heart.

This is the person whose heart had some good in it, but mostly their heart was packed with **rocks**. They might listen to God's Word a bit, and it (God's Word, which is the seed) might actually grow in them. But there is no good deep, and rich soil in their heart. There was just a little softness. Ezek 11:19 speaks of a stony heart also. Pv 24:30 speaks of the slothful or sluggard.

They understand a little, but usually will not persist. They might follow Jesus or persist for a few days, or even a few years, but ultimately they fall away from God's Word and obedience to it.

The stony ground would be easy for Israel to understand. Many areas fit this description.

As has been said in **Mt 13:5**, (And) Some (others) fell upon (the) stony (or rocky) places (or soil), where they had not much earth (or soil): and forthwith (or immediately) they sprung up, because they had no deepness (or depth) of earth (or soil):

**Mt 13:6.** The third heart is this. The seed is the Word of God. When this person hears or reads the actual words of God, they are received. But then when the sun was up or when pressures begin to come, or difficulties happen, they begin to wither away or shrink back, or give up, because there is no root in

them. It might be that something offends them and because God's Word was shallow in them, they wither away.

It is like a plant that begins to grow, but then the hot sun, or circumstances, or pressures, or persecutions, or some other thing causes the person to wither or give up. Their faith fails.

In some way, or somehow, something distracts them.

Something begins to become more important to them than God's Word.

Sometime overcomes them.

Perhaps it is relatives mocking the person that is trying to read their Bible or listen to God's Word.

They begin to follow Jesus (which is God's Word), but then they stop.

Pv 24:30-32-I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

31 And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

32 Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.

As has been said in **Mt 13:6**, And when the sun was (risen) (or came) up, they (the plants) were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

**Mt 13:7.** The Word of God also fell among those people that had a thorny type of heart.

First, the Word of God comes. Then comes the thorns or weeds.

**Mt 13:7.** And some (others) (seed) fell among (the) thorns; and the thorns sprung (or came) (or grew) up, and choked them (the plants) (out):

Thorns can choke the Word out of a person's heart. Included among the thorns that can hinder or choke God's Word out of a person are as follows.

These are the **cares** and concerns a person has about all manner of things and about this life. These cares can become so strong that the Bible has no place in a person's life, except perhaps on Sunday. A person may read their Bible (few do) and as they read thorns or thoughts appear to hinder and choke God's Word.

Then there are the **pleasures** of this life. Pleasures can include everything from personal desires of possessions to sex outside of marriage to drinking, partying, smoking, drugs or anything that pleases the flesh. The list is nearly endless.

Thorns can include **lusting** after things. Again, the things a person can **lust** after are almost without limit. It can include what the eyes see, what the ears hear, what the nose smells, and what the flesh desires.

Then there are **riches, possessions, and money**. The desire for money has sent many to the lake of fire.

Only one thing is needful—that is Jesus. For it is only through repentance and trusting in Jesus can a person inherit eternal life and avoid eternal damnation.

Jesus tells those that follow Him to forsake everything. This teaching is almost non-existent in this latter day generation. Each of us should consider, what thorns do each of us have?

These should be covered more fully further on.

As has been said in **Mt 13:7**, And (some (others)(seed) fell among (the) thorns; and the

**Mt 13:8.** But other (seed) fell into (the) good ground (or soil), and brought forth (or yielded) fruit (or produced) (a crop), some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold (or thirty times) (what was sown).

**Mt 13:9.** (He) Who hath (or has) ears to hear, let him hear.

thorns sprung (or came) (or grew) up, and choked them (the plants) (out):

**Mt 13:8.** The various hearts in this parable, which also includes the other Gospels, are the:

wayside heart,  
the stony heart,  
the thorny heart,  
the lustful heart,  
the cares of this world heart,

and then, finally, the good heart,  
or the honest and good heart.

The good heart is found in all that stand firm to the end.

The good and **honest** heart appears to be found in very, very few people. The word "honest" appears in the Bible 7 times.

People with this latter type of heart have found that the religious establishment disagrees with some of their findings regarding prophecy,

**AND** that an extremely few number of people will enter heaven from this latter day time period.

Regarding the Bible, the majority of opinion on certain scriptures often wins out, even though it can sometimes be wrong.

There are also other hearts mentioned in various scriptures.

As has been said in **Mt 13:8**, But other (seed) fell into (the) good ground (or soil), and brought forth (or yielded) fruit (or produced) (a crop), some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold (or thirty times) (what was sown).

**Mt 13:9.** It may be said, the person that has a heart to understand, let them hear or understand. Regretfully, so many are filled with lukewarm, Laodicean teaching or preaching

**Mt 13:10.** And the disciples came (to him), and said unto him, Why speakest thou (or why do you speak) unto them (the people) in parables?

using little Scripture and lots of stories, or preaching that uses mainly psychology in these latter days, they can scarcely comprehend the truth of God's Word. Neither do they want to hear the pure Word of God, especially humbleness, repentance, obedience, and perfection.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:9**, (He) Who hath (or has) ears to hear, let him hear.

**Mt 13:10.** The disciples did not ask Jesus what the parable was, or what it meant, but rather they wanted to know **why He spoke to the people using parables or riddles.**

A parable is a type of riddle. It cannot be correctly understood by the people that hear it unless God gives them the understanding.

Sometimes in order to understand it, the more basic things in the Bible need to be understood first.

An example is that a person cannot comprehend the roof of a building, until he has climbed the ladder.

So it is with the Bible.

When a person first begins reading the Bible, only a few things can be understood. The person first understands the basic things, such as who Jesus is and what He did to save a person from eternal damnation, and what the unsaved sinner must do to receive the gift of eternal life.

As the person repents and obeys the few things they understand, more understanding opens up.

The second time a person reads the whole Bible much more should be understood. This process of learning more and more never ends.

Faith only comes from hearing and reading God's Word. Endless worldly stories, such as most clergy teach today, brings no faith. Any person that finds worldly stories more desirable than God's Word should find in the end, they will perish.

Matt 13:10-16:

10. And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?

11. He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.

12. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

13. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

14. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:

15. For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

16. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

As has been said in **Mt 13:10**, And the disciples came (to him), and said unto him, Why speakest thou (or why do you speak) unto them (the people) in parables?

**Mt 13:11.** (And) He answered and said (or replied) unto them, Because it is given (or granted) unto you to know the mysteries (or the secrets) of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given (or granted).

**Mt 13:11.** In verses 11 to 15, Jesus answers the question asked in verse 10.

To put it plainly: Some people think they understand the Scriptures, but they do not.

They have a certain understanding, but it is wrong. The reason is because of the condition of their heart, or the type of heart they have.

Jesus indicated that what He spoke was the mysteries of the kingdom. In doing so, those to whom it was given to understand would understand, but to others, they would not understand. Some might be in between.

It is a very familiar thing to hear people say, "I just don't understand the Bible." However, a very few do understand some things, and as they repent and are faithful, more and more understanding does come.

Denominational traditions can blind a person's heart.

Church **theology** can blind a person's heart.

**Sin** can blind a person's heart.

Certain **ungodly desires** can blind a person's heart. One needs to die to themselves, so that God's Word can reprogram them.

The love or need of **money** can blind a person's heart.

The **cares of this life**, **lusts** of all sorts of things, the **pleasures** of this world can all blind or fog up a person's heart.

The **love of this world**, the **love of its possessions**, its **sexual enticements** and **pornography** can all blind a person's heart.



Even the **pleasures of food** can blind a person's heart.

**Personal desires** can blind a person's heart.

**Ungodly habits** can blind a person's heart.

**Fear** can blind a person's heart.

**Not becoming childlike** can blind a person's heart.

**Pride** is a killer. It can blind a person's heart.

How can a heart that is full of storms, being pushed back and forth like a wave, understand being quiet and still so they can hear that still small voice?

The list is almost limitless.

Jesus told His disciples that to them it was ordained that they should know and understand the Word of God. They should know and understand the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.

What a blessing they had then and can have today who can understand correctly.

Jesus used the word **mysteries** regarding the kingdom of heaven.

Indeed, to most people the kingdom of heaven is a mystery. What will happen to a person after they die is a mystery to most. The reality of eternal suffering is a mystery, and none really believe it will happen to them.

Some people believe that when they die, that it is all finished. There is nothing.

Some believe there is another life they will go to, and it will be a better place than this.

They base their ideas on thoughts they have,

on their hopes,  
on philosophy,  
on religion,  
on all sorts of publications they have read,  
on what some minister or priest says,  
on talk shows, and the list goes on and on.  
Few base what they believe on the Bible.  
If they did, they should be terrified.

So the average person, whether they are of a low IQ or the highest IQ, whether they have a multitude of college degrees, or they never went to school, they are in spiritual darkness, and the reality of life after death to them is a mystery.

In this world, they are in a spiritual darkness, because they do not understand the Bible or have chosen to ignore the Bible.

The Bible makes it extremely clear that the future of a person can be understood. So what do people do? They ignore the one Book that tells them the truth about the future.

Jesus used the term "kingdom of heaven." Also used in other verses is the kingdom of God.

How many people understand the reality of the truth? The answer is nearly no one.

The reality is hell awaits nearly everyone, and they should be terrified. The rich man died. He found he was in hell—a place of torment. He was terrified that his brethren would also come there—ref Luke 16:22-24.

Jesus, Who is the Word, over and over, made it clear the number of people that inherit eternal life is just a very few. The rest go to hell, then the final judgment, then the eternal lake of fire. There is much crying and gnashing of teeth. This is the end for nearly everyone.

So why aren't the clergy warning their congregations? Why aren't they teaching their

flocks to fear God, repent, and to read and obey the Gospel?

Just a note of interest. Of the multitude of religious programming on TV, how many tell their listeners to read and obey the Gospel? The number is very few. What is happening is the cost of air time both on the radio and TV is very high.

Many TV ministries encourage people to **buy "their" books. The result is, in some cases,** that people buy the books, and their Bible collects dust. Indeed, this is the generation of biblically illiterate, lukewarm people that will perish.

How many will inherit eternal life from this generation? Only God knows. One might wonder if it would be about 1 out of every 234 people, or less than 1%.

How many teach on the subject of hell and the lake of fire? The percentage is very low.

The Bible is trying to warn people. We are trying to warn people. Is there anybody listening in this wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked generation? This entire generation will perish, unless they repent.

We are now living in a time that will soon see the Rapture, then the Tribulation, then the horrible Battle of Armageddon and the return of Jesus as the King of kings and Lord of lords. Then 1000 years of peace will follow.

This earth is being prepared. Technology is advancing rapidly. At the same time, there has also come increased sin, homosexuality, mind-altering drugs, and a great deterioration in the preaching of the Gospel.

This great deterioration includes such things as fearing God, denying oneself and taking up the

**Mt 13:12.** For whosoever hath (or has), to him shall (more) be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not (or does not have), from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

cross and following Jesus. Hell and the lake of fire are absent from nearly all pulpits.

As has been said in **Mt 13:11**, (And) He answered and said (or replied) unto them, Because it is given (or **granted**) unto you to know the mysteries (or the secrets) of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given (or granted).

**Mt 13:12.** If a person has Jesus and good works done as God directs, he shall be given. He will have far more.

But to the lazy servant that hid the talent he was given, from him shall be taken even that which he had.

In this case, those that have laid up riches in heaven shall receive more and will have an abundance.

But those unprofitable servants that asked Jesus to be their Savior, but would not obey His Word and serve Him, they shall lose everything and shall perish. Few understand that this life is the test, and then, there follows the Judgment Day.

Faithfulness to the Word of God is required.

How can a person be faithful to God's Word, if they do not hear or study it?

It is a rare person, indeed, that esteems the Word of God (the Bible) more important to them than their necessary food.

**Mt 13:12**, For whosoever hath (or has), to him shall (more) be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not (or does not have), from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

**Mt 13:13.** Therefore (this is why) speak I to

**Mt 13:13.** For this reason, Jesus speaks to the

them in parables: because (while) they seeing (they) see not; and (while) hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

**Mt 13:14.** And **in them** (or in their case) is (being) fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias (or Isaiah), which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand (or you will keep on hearing, but will (never) understand); and (you will be ever) seeing ye shall see (or keep on seeing), and shall not (or never) perceive:

people in parables or riddles, so that even though they might think they understand, they will not understand the Scriptures.

They see, but they don't see the truth.

They hear, but do not understand the meaning of God's Word.

Few have a deep, enduring, inner desire to hear and read God's Word, and after they hear it, few have a deep, inner desire to obey God's word.

They saw Christ and heard His words. They saw His miracles, but it had no effect on them.

Every person that has a Bible has the same opportunity, as what is written is truth. But they do not respond to truth with true repentance. Turning over a new leaf is not repentance.

Many go to churches that bring forth much false, and distorted, and "feel good" teaching. Yet what excuse can a person have, especially if they have a Bible and the truth is at their fingertips.

It may be said that to reject God's Word, when it is offered, is to love eternal death.

As has been said in **Mt 13:13**, Therefore (this is why) speak I to them in parables: because (while) they seeing (they) see not; and (while) hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

**Mt 13:14.** Verse 14,15 is the prophecy of Esaias (which is Isaiah 6:9 and 10). This was given about 800 years previously. Also note Mk 4:12; Lk 8:10; Jn 12:39,40; Acts 28:26, 27; Ro 11:8.

To understand God's Word, repentance, and humbleness is needed.

As has been said, when reading the Bible the first time, a few things are understood, but many things are not.

When reading it the second time, more is understood. This increase in understanding never stops as one repents and humbles himself. It is not unusual to hear a minister of the Lord say that just yesterday he discovered new things in the Scriptures.

In the same way, many people today may say that they just cannot understand the Bible. They might read it now and then, but their understanding is very limited.

They hear and read God's Word, but they do not understand with the understanding that is given by God.

For this reason, in some cases, some that do read the Bible, read only the **Psalms and Proverbs**. They know not God.

The reason for this is covered in verse 15.

As has been said in **Mt 13:14**, And **in them** (or in their case) is (being) fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias (or Isaiah), which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand (or you will keep on hearing, but will (never) understand); and (you will be ever) seeing ye shall see (or keep on seeing), and shall not (or never) perceive:

**Mt 13:15.** Intelligence has nothing to do with surrendering to Jesus.

The condition of a person's heart does.

There are some very intelligent and highly educated people that have come to Jesus, but there are also many very simple-minded people that have also.

**Mt 13:15.** For this people's heart is waxed gross (or become dull) (or has become calloused), and their ears are dull of hearing (or they scarcely (or hardly) hear) (with their ears), and their eyes they have closed; lest (or otherwise) at any time they should (or might) see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted (or turn) (or return), and I

should heal them.

In both India and Africa, many that have heard God's Word—afterward have surrendered their lives to Christ. Regretfully, there is a shortage of Bibles, and even if one is available, many in the remote areas have no money to buy one, if they can locate one.

In some of the remote areas in Mozambique, the Gospel was preached to rebel soldiers carrying machine guns. The altar call was heart warming as many surrendered to Jesus. The words of God can touch any soul. Hardened criminals can sometimes fall to their knees crying, when they realize their sins can be forgiven and that God really does love them.

In America, the Bible can be heard through the TV or radio at almost any time. But where are the true conversions? Most people, it appears, their eyes and ears have closed. Some are religious, but they do not follow Christ.

When a person is flat on their back with no hope, then Jesus can sometimes reach them and give them more than hope. He can give them life eternal.

Three things are mentioned in Mt 13:15. These are the heart, the ears, and the eyes.

The eyes can see things.

The ears can hear things.

The heart can understand things.

Their eyes had seen miracles that Jesus had done, but they were closed.

Their ears had heard the words of God Himself, which were solidified by the miracles that no man could do, but their ears were dull regarding God's Word.

Their heart and mind were full of thoughts and reasons that blocked their understanding. Their heart was waxed gross.

It is like 2 Tim 3:7—Ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

The Pharisees had seen the miracles Jesus did, but they were afraid to follow Jesus, because they thought the Romans might come and destroy their nation.

They also thought they would no longer have the praise of men that they had, for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

The many reasons people will not surrender their life to God are covered in the Scriptures.

Their eyes had become **blind**. Even the miracles of raising the dead did not persuade them.

Their ears had become **clogged up**. The Word came into their ears, but went right back out like running water down the drain.

Their heart understood wrongly. They **could not understand** correctly, because they did not want to understand and repent. They did not desire to surrender all to Christ. They did not want to have people mock and ridicule them. They did not want to lose their friends. They did not want to surrender all for Christ. They did not want to forsake their church, even if it was false.

They did not want to repent and obey God's Word.

For if they could see things as they were, if they could hear what was being said, if they could understand with their heart, then they should be converted, changed, and renewed.

Then Jesus would heal them from their wrong thinking, from their darkness and blindness.

Then Jesus would save them from the horrors of hell and give them a new destination—that of



eternal life with God.

But if they did not want to follow Jesus then, why would they want to dwell with Jesus forever and ever, later?

How many people are so self-centered that there is no place for repentance and Christ in their heart?

Yes, people want to go to heaven. No one wants to go to hell. But they have a lying voice in their head that tells them that they can live their life as they want, and it will all turn out all right.

That lying voice is from Satan. It has deceived the whole world in the past and even deceives people right now.

Many do not believe the Bible. They do not believe there is a God. They do not believe in Jesus. They do not believe there is a devil.

Your choice is simple. People have this choice. Follow and obey the Bible or don't follow and obey the Bible. The choice each person makes will affect their eternity. There is life everlasting for all. The question is, where will you spend it?

The verse had said in **Mt 13:15**, For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Knock on some of these people's doors and the following might happen. They answer the door. When they see the Bible, they yell, "I am saved." Then they yell out, "If you don't leave, I'll call the police." Then they slam the door, and a few may call the police and make false

**Mt 13:16.** But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for (or because) they hear.

accusations.

There was a time in the U.S. cities, when people could knock on a person's door, and a fair percentage would let them come in, so they could share God's Word. The percentage decreased as the years passed. Now, the number that will welcome a servant of God that brings the Gospel is very, very small.

It is written: Rev 22:17-And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:15**, For this people's heart is waxed gross (or become dull) (or has become calloused), and their ears are dull of hearing (or they scarcely [or hardly] hear) (with their ears), and their eyes they have closed; lest (or otherwise) at any time they should (or might) see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted (or turn) (or return), and I should heal them.

**Mt 13:16.** Blessed are those that can see, and hear, and understand the words of God.

The eyes and ears are mentioned.

Blessed are those that can know the mysteries and parables of God.

What if a man gains the whole world and lives like a king for 100 years in good health, but then they do as all do. They wake up in a place where they are tormented in the fire for ever and ever. They never again will have the chance they once had to repent and give their life to Christ.

Blessed are those that can see and hear and understand the truth of God's Word.

**Mt 13:17.** For verily (or truly) I say unto you (or I tell you the truth), That many prophets and righteous men have desired (or longed) to see those things which ye (or you) see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye (or you) hear, and have not heard them.

As has been said in **Mt 13:16**, But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for (or because) they hear.

**Mt 13:17.** "Verily I say unto you" often precedes a very important message.

Jesus now tells us that many prophets, and many righteous men have wanted to see the things which Jesus did. They wanted to see the the miracles, the dead raised, but they did not see them in their time.

Many of the prophets and righteous men of the past have wanted to see the coming of Jesus, and to hear what He would say, yet it did not come in their time.

Note again the words: the prophets and **righteous wanted to see the miracles and hear the words of God**, but they did not, yet their faith failed not.

As it was then, so it is now. The righteous want to hear the **words of God**. They want to hear good **sound doctrine**.

They don't want to hear vain babblings,  
and endless story telling,  
and worldly psychology,  
and the personal life events of their minister.  
They want to hear the words of God.

Heb 4:12-For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The things written in the Bible, regarding Jesus and the things He taught and did, are only a fraction of what He said and did in the three years He was upon this earth.

The prophets of old, the righteous men of times past, **wanted** with all their heart to see and hear Jesus.

He did far beyond what is in the Bible, as it is written, Jn 21:25-And there are also **many** other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

Regretfully, the generation of today is different. Their itching ears desire to hear vain janglings, endless stories, and nice things. It desires to hear that they can live as they want, but also they can inherit eternal life. And many of today's ministers give them just what they want to hear.

But the Bible shows that when the Rapture comes, most people that are absolutely **positive** they will be raptured will be left behind in disbelief. They just cannot understand that a lukewarm Christian is destined for eternity in the lake of fire.

Most people's understanding of the Bible often comes from lukewarm teachers, **not from** their own personal Bible study that is done on their knees in brokenness and humbleness, and in the fear of God.

In today's society, who has time to read the Bible? It is those that desire to.

As has been said in **Mt 13:17**, For verily (or truly) I say unto you (or I tell you the truth), That many prophets and righteous men have desired (or longed) to see those things which ye (or you) see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye (or you) hear, and have not heard them.

**Mt 13:18.** Hear ye (or listen) therefore (or hear

**Mt 13:18.** God forbid, how much people sink

then) (what) the **parable of the sower** (means).

their mind into their handheld devices, but their Bible grows old and collects dust somewhere out of sight.

The wonderful Word of God is available to the Jews—yes, but also to the Gentiles. Yet much of the world has rejected their Creator and His Word.

Jesus now exhorts the people to **hear or pay attention** or listen to the parable He is about to teach.

When God says, Hear or Listen, you are to do so.

The parable (or riddle) is called the parable of the sower

The parable is in two parts.

First the parable is given.

Then, it is explained in detail, so that those that have ears to understand would be able to understand.

Those whose hearts are not right before God will hear, and some will think they understand, but their understanding is incorrect or is darkness or confusion.

The church is the present day form of revealing God's grace and love and announcing the coming of the Kingdom.

Regretfully the "fear of God" is seldom ever heard anymore, even though it is by the fear of the Lord that men depart from evil-ref Pv 16:6.

As has been said in **Mt 13:18**, Hear ye (or listen) therefore (or hear then) (what) the **parable of the sower** (means).

**Mt 13:19.** When any one heareth (or hears)

**Mt 13:19.** The wayside heart.

the word (or message) **of the kingdom**, and understandeth it not (or does not understand it), then cometh the wicked (or evil) one, and catcheth (or snatches) away that which was (or has been) sown in his heart. This is he (the one) which received (the) seed by the **way side** (or beside the road) (or along the path).

When any one reads or hears the Word of God, but does not understand it, the reason is that the wicked one, which is the devil, is able to take away the correct understanding from a person's heart. Satan comes like a bird of prey and steals the correct understanding of the Word and replaces it with deceit.

The Word of God is that which leads to the kingdom of God.

Note, it indicates that the word was sown in his heart, but that after it was sown, the wicked one which is Satan, was able to snatch it away.

This is the person that has what the Bible refers to as a **way side heart**.

It doesn't say the person cannot understand, but that he does not understand because of what the devil is able to do to him. These people give up far too easily. They may be the kind of person that says, I just can't do it. They do not have an attitude that persists and finally overcomes.

Jesus put in this verse "the word of the kingdom", as much of his teaching pertained to this, and the people expected the kingdom to appear as the King had come.

Every person initially cannot understand God's Word.

No one is born saved, and no religion can save anyone.

Satan is able to blind people's hearts, because of the type of heart the person has. But God can lift that blindness, which is what happens when a person gets saved. It is also what happens during the Millennium, as Satan will be sealed, so he cannot deceive the people. Everyone should follow Jesus at that time.

To put it simply: if Satan was sealed today, every person should become saved, and sin, as we know it, would cease, as it will during the Millennium, with little exception.

At this time, the darkness of Satan prevails, but that darkness can be overcome through Jesus, Who is light, and the bondage of sin can be broken through repentance and what Jesus did on the cross, and through faith in Him.

Satan can be compared to a bird of prey that quickly swoops down to steal the Word of God out of a person's heart.

Woe to that person that comes to Jesus, but then does not begin to devour God's Word, which is his armor, that might enable him to stand against the schemes and devices Satan uses to deceive.

God speaks to each person through His Word. Those that do not dwell in His Word, are cutting off God's communication to them. There is no way for a person to establish a **root** in God's Word and through God's Word to enable them to stand without dwelling in or hearing God's Word.

Let there be no misunderstanding. Satan was created by God to deceive people. He deceiveth the whole world-Rev 12:9.

The vast majority of Christian churches use little of God's Word. This is not of the Lord. God tells the church to "Preach the Word," but it does not seem to have ears to understand.

The Word of the Kingdom proclaims that Jesus is the King.

At that time, it was not understood that the Kingdom would come, when Jesus would return after the 7 church ages and after a time called the Tribulation. It was not understood that at the

**Mt 13:20.** But he (or the one) that received the seed into (or on the) stony (or rocky) places, the same is he (the man) that heareth (or hears) the word, and anon (or immediately) (or at once) with joy receiveth it;

**Mt 13:21.** Yet (since) hath he not (or he has no firm) root in himself, but (he) dureth (or lasts)

time of the Battle of Armageddon Jesus would return.

The type of soil that each man's heart is made of reflects their response to the Word of God.

As has been said in **Mt 13:19**, When any one heareth (or hears) the word (or message) **of the kingdom**, and understandeth it not (or does not understand it), then cometh the wicked (or evil) one, and catcheth (or snatches) away that which was (or has been) sown in his heart. This is he (the one) which received (the) seed by the **way side** (or beside the road) (or along the path).

**Mt 13:20.** The second kind of heart is the **stony** (or rocky) one. It says "stony places" indicating there is some of his heart that is good. It may be considered a shallow heart.

This person, when he hears God's Word, will, at a set time, receive it. The word "anon" means right away.

He not only receives it, but he does so with joy.

He will get saved. To receive God's Word is to receive Jesus.

It may be said that this represents a person that has good top soil, but underneath it is rock.

Such a person also gets baptized by full immersion-ref Acts 2:41. Sprinkling baptism is a counterfeit. It is biblically no baptism at all.

As has been said in **Mt 13:20**, But he (or the one) that received the seed into (or on the) stony (or rocky) places, the same is he (the man) that heareth (or hears) the word, and anon (or immediately) (or at once) with joy receiveth it.

**Mt 13:21.** These, because there is some hardness or a lot of hardness in their heart, the



for a while (or for only a short time) (or is only temporary): for (or and) when **tribulation** (or affliction) (or trouble) or **persecution** ariseth **because** of the word, by and by (or immediately) he is offended (or he quickly) (falls away).

following happens.

The Word in him begins to grow. It is like a tree that begins to grow and looks good for a while, but then the root runs out of good soil, and there is rock. But then when the person is attacked through being **persecuted**, or all types of difficulties or **hardships** come **because of God's Word**, he becomes offended, or afraid, or stumbles, or shrinks away. Fear is one of Satan's tools that works in a person with a shallow heart.

God's Word does indeed offend those that do not seek to repent. Such a person may get upset. His shallow root withers and dries up. He falls. Understand, when a person gets saved, persecutions and tribulations will come, and come, and come again, if a person lets their light shine.

Secret Christians are no Christians at all. Life is a test.

Every person that plants flowers, or grass seed, or trees should understand this.

Roots have to have a place to grow.

It is the same with God's Word. It has to have a good place to grow. Continual repentance, not to be repented of, and dying to oneself can, do miracles. Getting rid of obstacles to God's Word can help. Getting rid of the stones in stony ground can help the seed to grow.

There is nothing better to do than devouring God's Word, day and night, and doing what it says.

That is why Jesus told the rich merchant to sell all he had, and then come and follow Him.

It is very hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Those riches are like

stones. Possessions can be like stones. The things of this world can be like stones, which make it difficult or impossible for God's Word to grow inside a person. This is the stony heart. The more a person does the will of God, the more obstacles Satan may put in his way. The more a person's faith grows, which is only through God's Word, the more they can overcome.

Again, if Satan was sealed, as during the Millennium, the stony-hearted person would grow. But now Satan is able to use the stones in a person's heart to finally deceive him and cause him to be offended with persecutions or problems. The person may just shrink back on his Bible reading, and then his foundation crumbles.

As has been said in **Mt 13:21**, Yet (since) hath he not (or he has no firm) root in himself, but (he) dureth (or lasts) for a while (or for only a short time) (or is only temporary): for (or and) when **tribulation** (or affliction) (or trouble) or **persecution** ariseth **because** of the word, by and by (or immediately) he is offended (or he quickly) (falls away).

**Mt 13:22.** He that received God's Word among the thorns is the person that hears God's Word and does get saved as the previous person.

But then Satan uses one or more of the following 4 things to lead the born again Christian astray, some time later

These four are cares or worries, riches, lusts, and pleasures. Satan is a master at getting people to look back, which can cause them to also shrink back. One needs to keep their eyes fixed on Jesus (that is, God's Word).

It has been said that many profess what they do not possess. Many say Jesus is their Savior,

**Mt 13:22.** He also (or the one) that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the **care** (or worry) (or worries) of this world (or this life), and the **deceitfulness of riches** (or wealth), choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful (making it unfruitful).

**(Mk 4:19).** And the **cares** of this world, and the **deceitfulness of riches**, and the **lusts of other things** entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

**(Lk 8:14).** And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with **cares** and **riches** and **pleasures** of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

but the Bible shows us clearly, many that are positive they are saved are positively wrong. They think and totally believe Jesus knows them, but Jesus knows them not. They bring no fruit to perfection.

Illegitimate sons may do all sorts of church work, or other works, but the fruits of the Spirit are lacking. And the fruit of being humble and childlike to obeying correction is not present.

If a person would sit outside of nearly every church after the service is over and listen, what would they hear?

Would they hear God's Word on the lips of any?

Would they hear people discussing the wonderful message of wisdom and knowledge from the Scriptures they should have heard, but it never came forth? The preaching of this last generation is so anemic, so watered-down, so wretched when compared with God's Word, it is not even a comparison.

The first mentioned are the **cares of this world**. This is a thorn that hurts a person.

It is something that **chokes God's Word. That means that following Jesus, reading His Word, and serving Him can be choked (or hindered, or strangled) because** of things like the cares of this world or cares of this life take priority and strangle or take priority ahead of or over God's Word. Did Jesus allow any of these things to hinder Him? The answer is no.

Did His apostles allow these things to hinder them? The answer is no.

Satan attacks preachers and tempts them to tell stories in place of God's Word. Most preachers give in and their church becomes anemic and weak in faith.

Satan attacks radio and TV preachers in the same way. The teaching of God's Word in this latter day generation is wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. Watering down God's Word produces sick Christians that cannot stand against the devices of Satan.

The airwaves are filled with ministers advertising "send for this or that book." So people do so, and these books replace Bible reading. Then the lukewarm Christian, when tempted, falls away, as their faith is not based and centered in the pure Word of God. They have book faith, not Bible faith.

Many may endure or continue in God's Word for a time, but then slowly they come to a stop.

They may serve God for a time, but then slowly come to a stop. Their faith becomes overwhelmed, yet God will not allow a person to be tempted beyond that which they are able to endure, so that they are without excuse.

One of the first things a new Christian needs to do is try to get rid of debts. Do not try to take on new ones. Do not have your eyes set on the better things of this world. Jesus tells us to get rid of things, for they can become obstacles. They choke God's Word.

God promises, if you follow Him, He will take care of food and clothing. He will take care of your needs. The less things you have, the less cares you may have.

The prosperity message of this latter day generation, is a direct contradiction to God's Word. Biblically illiterate people can fall prey to this deceitful message. Remember, God Himself tells us in the Revelation that the teaching of this age is wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked; and as a result, the Christians are the same. They are biblically

illiterate as are most ministers of the Gospel.

The next thing Satan uses is the **deceitfulness of riches**. This is also a thorn that deceives and hurts a person. It also chokes God's Word.

Riches can make a person deceived. The rich merchant wanted to follow Jesus, but Jesus told him first that he had to go and sell all that he had.

Have you ever heard of any preacher in this age tell "that" to a rich man that came to an altar call?

Have we forgotten how Satan tempted Eve, and then Eve tempted Adam, and Adam sinned? Satan used their desire for something. Satan, of course did not reveal to them that when they did what he said, eternity in the lake of fire would be the result.

In the United States and many countries of the world, people not only strive to survive, they strive to be rich. They strive to get better and better things. It is a trap by Satan, and many ministers have fallen for this hook, line, and sinker. Their own self-centered interests deceive them. They get riches and, God forbid, teach others to do the same. At the Judgment, they will understand, but it will be too late. Riches can and do blind a person regarding God's Word. But how does a blind person know this, as he is blind?

What riches did Jesus have? What riches did the apostles have? What riches did Paul have? They had Jesus.

Have we forgotten that **Judas, an apostle**, sold his soul and Jesus for money, which was 30 pieces of silver? How many people since then have begun to follow Jesus, but when the opportunity to get riches happens, they go after the riches? Then they are blinded, so they

know not that they have fallen. This includes multitudes of clergy also. It is a test, but few recognize it, because Satan does not reveal the trap that is just a short distance away. Jesus is all a person needs, for He will meet your needs, if you trust in Him.

The next **thorn** is the **lusts, or desires, or wishful thinking, or craving for other things.**

These are the **cares of this world.** This is a thorn that hurts a person. It is something that chokes God's Word.

Sometimes this overwhelming desire can become an obsession. This can enter in, all of a sudden, unexpectedly. This is not included in Matthew's Gospel, but Mark's Gospel includes it in 4:19. We have included it here.

This is another thorn that can hurt a person. A person that has thoughts, that desires or lusts after something, may not have his thoughts on Jesus and God's Word.

A person can lust after women and sex. Lusts can include the things of this world. A man might lust after another man, or a woman after another woman. These overwhelming lusts and desires can include any number of things, perhaps a better job, but it might hinder a person following Jesus.

A person might have it in his spirit to forsake his job and become a missionary. He goes to his boss to quit. As he walks into the office, his boss greets him with a promotion, a huge raise, a new house and a new half million dollar sports car all paid for. Remember, Satan offered Jesus the whole world, if He would come and follow him.

These things can enter into a person's thoughts, and then they slowly begin to choke the Word of God.

Then, as a result, the Word in a person becomes compromised, and then, finally, the once "hot for Jesus" Christian becomes lukewarm, and then cold. The once fruit bearing tree or Christian no longer will bear good fruit.

What profit is there, if a person gains the whole world for a season, but then spends eternity in the lake of fire?

The last thorn listed here is the **pleasures** of this life. It is also something that chokes God's Word.

This Satan also uses this to keep people out of God's Word and deceive them into doing things which get in the way of God's calling.

Moses esteemed suffering afflictions with God's people a far greater thing, than enjoying the pleasures of sin (or the pleasures of this world) for a season.

Moses esteemed the reproach (or humiliation) of this world of far more value than all the treasures of Egypt.

Mt 16:26-For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

What profit is there to have the whole world at your feet for 80 years, but then be tormented in the flame for a time that shall never end?

God's Word has never lied or been wrong, no not even one time. Turn to Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and follow God's Word.

Satan deceives the whole world. Few overcome his huge collection of distractions and follow Jesus as the Scriptures reveal.

Once again, be aware of Satan's devices. Beware of these thorns, lest you bring no fruit to perfection. Beware, lest you become an

unprofitable servant, as many do. They become do nothing people that claim Jesus is their Savior, but they will not follow and obey Him. Beware of:

The cares of this life,  
the deceitfulness of riches,  
the lusts of all sorts of things,  
and the pleasures of this life.

All these things can make a person an unprofitable servant, and they bring no fruit to perfection. The unprofitable servant is like a rotten fruit, fit for nothing.

Choose suffering for Jesus over all the things the world can give you. The best the world can give you is about 112 years. This is not even a second when compared to eternity with God.

It may be said, that when the sun rises high in the sky, the person becomes overheated and withers away.

So it is, if a person is not committed to Jesus, Who is the Author and Finisher of their faith.

Many accept Jesus as their Savior. However they do not devour His Word and follow Him. To follow Jesus is to repent, obey God in water baptism, devour His Word, and do what it says.

Deny what your flesh wants to do, and pick up your cross and the Word of God DAILY, and follow Jesus.

As has been said in **Mt 13:22**, He also (or the one) that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the **care** (or worry) (or worries) of this world (or this life), and the **deceitfulness of riches** (or wealth), choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful (making it unfruitful).

**Mt 13:23.** But he (or the one) that received seed into the good ground (or soil), (this) is he

**Mt 13:23.** Jesus put forth this **parable** or riddle.



that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit (or produces a crop), and bringeth forth (or yielding), some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty (times what was sown).

But the person that received seed, which represents God's Word into the (good soil) or a good heart, this is the person that hears God's Word and understands it. The good seed takes root and begins to grow.

This person will also have the fruits of the Spirit. As a result of serving God, as God directs, the result will be a hundred times, or some sixty times, or some thirty times greater.

What this verse does not show, but others do, is this. A person's heart can be changed. When a person receives Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior their heart changes. **As a person studies and obeys God's Word, their heart can be changed, and purified, and become softer and softer.**

It is written: Ja 4:8-10-Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. **Cleanse** your hands, ye sinners; and **purify** your hearts, ye double minded. Be **afflicted**, and **mourn**, and **weep**: let your **laughter be turned to mourning**, and your **joy to heaviness**. **Humble yourselves** in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

This is one prescription, changing your heart, which, in turn, will change the way you think.

Love is the fulfilling of the law.

Love one another.

Put away accusing thoughts.

Put away trying to find faults in people.

Put away finger pointing.

Put away talking behind people's backs.

Put away gossip.

From one seed comes a tree, which, in turn, produces a crop. Mt 25:15-And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

It has been said that the church is the current

**Mt 13:24.** Another parable put he forth (or presented) unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened (or may be compared) unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

form of the kingdom. When the church age ends at the Rapture, then comes the Tribulation and Armageddon. Then comes the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ as the King of kings and Lord of lords.

As has been said in **Mt 13:23**, But he (or the one) that received seed into the good ground (or soil), (this) is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit (or produces a crop), and bringeth forth (or yielding), some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty (times what was sown).

**Mt 13:24.** This is the **second of seven parables**. Jesus now brings forth another parable or riddle.

Before we begin with this parable, here is a list of the key words and what they represent.

The **kingdom of heaven** is compared with the following. Some relate the kingdom with the church.

The **man** represents a farmer. This is Jesus Christ. He is the One that sows the seed, and harvests, and judges during the harvest.

The **good seed** is what will become born again Christians, followers of Christ, the sheep. It is what becomes a good plant.

The **field** or farm land is the world. It is not just Israel. This would be a shock for Judaism, as they considered they were God's people, not the world.

Jesus' own disciples did not understand this at that time. It was not until Peter and then Paul took the Scriptures to the Gentiles that this was understood.

The **enemy**, in verse 25, represents the devil and his helpers.

The **tares** represent those that follow the devil and false converts. Their mission is to try to tear, bind and destroy. Tares are not only a weed, they can be poisonous.

However the tares often masquerade as born again Christians. Shallow Christians often mistake them for real Christians and thus can be led astray. Make-believe Christians can produce works that look like they are of God, but the fruits of the Spirit under stress can reveal they are not. The **one place** that can reveal they are false **is trying to correct them.**

As said above, the householder (or farmer) is the Lord. **His servants**, in verse 27, can represent angels.

The reapers, in verse 30, are the angels of God.

The parable begins with Mt 13:24. The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a **man** which sowed **good seed** in his **field**:

The first part is: The kingdom of heaven—what is it like?

It is likened to a man, which is the Lord, that showed "good" seed, which will become good plants that represent born again Christians.

He sowed or put them in his field.

The **field** is the farm. It may be compared with whatever areas or places God ordains each person to be.

As has been said in **Mt 13:24**, **Another parable** he put forth (or presented) unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened (or may be compared) unto a **man** which sowed **good seed** in his **field**.

**Mt 13:25.** But while men (or everyone) slept (or were sleeping), his enemy came and sowed tares (or weeds) among the wheat, and went his way (or went away).

**Mt 13:25.** But then the men or farmers were not diligent and careful. They went to sleep. They did not have anyone guarding the field or farm.

While they were sleeping (or at night) the enemy (which is the devil) came and sowed **tares** (or weeds) in the garden, which was in with the good seed or wheat.

Then the enemy (which is the devil) went away.

This is a parable meant for all generations; nevertheless, this is the age of the lukewarm church. It is a church that is definitely asleep.

So now the field (or garden, or farmland has both good and bad plants side by side (Christians and unbelievers).

This almost sounds like today's churches. Both believers and unbelievers sit side by side as both the good plants and the tares (or bad plants) are also side by side in the field. However, the field can represent wherever the Christian and unbeliever are.

In reality, the good seed wants to convert the tares.

However, the tares (or unbelievers) may try to destroy the good seed (or Christians). This can come through sowing false doctrines using Scriptures wrongfully, or through sowing psychology instead God's Word, as well as other ways.

The foundation for wherever or whatever your field—is **STUDY GOD'S WORD**. It is the fertilizer a plant needs to help it grow.

If a preacher uses **storytelling** as a fertilizer and water, **AS MANY CHURCHES DO**, this is not good. It **SHOULD PRODUCE** sick plants

**Mt 13:26.** But when the blade (or wheat) was sprung up (or sprouted and formed heads), and brought forth fruit (or grain), then appeared the tares (or weeds also).

from the seed. It should not produce strong and knowledgeable Christians. The good plants that are coming forth in these latter days are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. They will be found not worthy to be raptured. These are some that will cry out after the Rapture: Lord, Lord, open to us. But Jesus denies knowing them.

As has been said in **Mt 13:25**, But while men (or everyone) slept (or were sleeping), his enemy came and sowed tares (or weeds) among the wheat, and went his way (or went away).

**Mt 13:26.** This verse seems to cover a long time period.

As time passed, the first sprouts begin to appear. A good crop or fruit begins to appear.

But then, all of a sudden the tares (or weeds) also are there. It seems like weeds grow and multiply faster than the good plants do.

What do tares (or weeds) do to a garden? They can overwhelm it. They can kill the good plants (or Christians) by strangling or choking their roots. There can be so many weeds, they can even keep sunlight from reaching the good plant.

How many good churches have been destroyed by weeds that overwhelm it?

How many real Christians have found themselves to be, by far, in the minority? Weeds may outnumber the good plants by hundreds to one. Deceivers, as weeds, try to sow doubt and strangle the Christian.

When a born again Christian appears and starts to produce fruit or begins to do the works God has called them to do, and begins serving God, then the enemy also appears. That enemy can be a neighbor, a friend, a relative, or your own children, or spouse. Oftentimes, an enemy

**Mt 13:27.** So the servants (or slaves) of the householder (or landowner) came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence (or where) (or how) then hath it tares (or weeds)? (Where did the weeds come from)?

will call the police and make up lies about you. The enemy may gather neighbors against you, even a multitude all speaking lies and making accusations.

The enemy sought to kill Jesus. They made up lies. They can create such a tumult, or such an uproar, that finally a Christian may be arrested for doing nothing more than trying to sow the Word of God.

As has been said in **Mt 13:26**, But when the blade (or wheat) was sprung up (or sprouted and formed heads), and brought forth fruit (or grain), then appeared the tares (or weeds also).

**Mt 13:27.** The servants or people that took care of the garden saw that the weeds were appearing. They seemed alarmed.

They asked the householder (or landowner ) Didn't you sow good seed in your field? How then can it have all these weeds? Where did they come from?

We may put it another way. Didn't your church have born again Christians at the first? How is it that now there are far more unbelievers (or weeds) here now that are strangling or leading the born again Christians astray?

Regretfully, there are now many more teachers of the Gospel that are not teachers of THE GOSPEL. They are weeds. The very few Christians that love God's Word and do not like endless, worldly storytelling nowadays—who can find one?

As it has been said in **Mt 13:27**, So the servants (or slaves) of the householder (or landowner) came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence (or where) (or how) then hath it tares (or weeds)? (Where did the weeds come from)?

**Mt 13:28.** He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants (or slaves) said unto him, Wilt thou (or do you want us) then that we go and gather them (or pull them) up?

**Mt 13:29.** But he said, Nay; (or no) lest while ye gather up (or are pulling up) the tares (or weeds), ye (may) root up also the wheat with them.

**Mt 13:30.** Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers (or harvesters), Gather ye together first the tares (or weeds), and bind them in

**Mt 13:28.** The owner of the field said that an enemy had done this. That enemy is the **devil**.

Then the servants of the owner said, Will you then desire that we go and pull up the weeds (or drive away those that are causing the born again Christian's problems)? Weeds outnumber the good plants by huge numbers. Unbelievers outnumber the true believers by huge numbers.

Such tares often look like they are of God. They are everywhere, trying to discredit what the preacher or any born again person is saying.

The enemy tried to destroy the farm and the good seed that produced good plants.

How much do churches preach on the subject of Satan working in your mind to sow doubt and deceive you? Yet the Bible tells us Satan...deceiveth the whole world-Rev 12:9. This also includes many preachers and evangelists.

As has been said in **Mt 13:28**, He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants (or slaves) said unto him, Wilt thou (or do you want us) then that we go and gather them (or pull them) up?

**Mt 13:29.** The owner of the garden replied to his servants saying, no. The reason he gave was that in removing the tares (or weeds, or unsaved disrupters) you might also root up (or remove, or damage) the wheat or born again believers.

In addition, it is sometimes difficult to tell which are the weeds and which are the good plants.

**Mt 13:30.** The farmer said to those that tend the garden: let the good plants or born again believers and the tares (or weeds, or disruptive unbelievers) grow up together.

bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

But then when the harvest time comes (or when the Judgment comes) I will tell those that harvest the field, to gather up all those **unbelievers** and tie them together in bundles and send them into the burning fire. That fire is called hell. Hell is a place unbelievers wait in torment for the final Great White Throne Judgment. The rich man is also there, which said, "I am tormented in this flame."

However, gather the born again believers (the wheat) into my **barn** (or heaven). In other words, bring them home. That home is with Jesus, and the end for the wheat is everlasting life.

The saved (that is, the good seed and plants) are those that have made a covenant with Jesus by sacrifice.

Even the apostles had a bad seed among them—Judas.

The enemy seeks to destroy the good plants that bear fruit. The tares try to deceive, hinder, persecute, and destroy believers. They also try to destroy ministries, churches, and all that follow Jesus that are bringing forth the good news of the Gospel.

However, those false teachers that appear to be of God, but are preaching error, Satan has no reason to attack them. They belong to him. As it is written: 2 Cor 11:13-15-For such are false apostles, **deceitful workers, transforming themselves** into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for **Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light**. Therefore it is no great thing if **his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness**; whose end shall be according to their works.

It is often difficult for the new or lukewarm



Christian to tell the good from the bad. They often look alike. By their fruits, ye shall know them. The unbeliever is very easily led astray.

Good fruit that grows on a tree can become infected with all sorts of diseases, even bugs. As the farmer must be on his toes and be watchful, so the Christian that sows God's Word and does the works of God must also be watchful. The enemy can appear unexpectedly and without warning in a sneak attack. The enemy is ready to destroy the good seed, but the good plants want to save their enemies from the fire.

#### BIBLE STUDY

A person may have a Bible study going on with a friend or neighbor. It is going well. As the person leaves, in walks a tare. The tares or enemy of the Gospel tries to tear down and destroy the good seed or good word that has been sown.

#### A CRYING SHAME, BUT WHO CARES?

Jesus spoke the pure **Word of God**.

The apostles used the **Word of God**.

Many preachers 150 years ago preached the **Word of God**.

Most preachers today do not.

Do not expect a good garden to come forth from sowing entertainment, fun and non-convicting babbling. Stories may attract many, yet they are dead while they live.

It is a sad thing that in most churches the congregation knows **far more** about their preacher, his family, friends and what he does, than they know about Jesus, Who is God's Word.

As has already been alluded to: for the time is **now**, when people (including churchgoers) will no longer put up with good, sound Bible

teaching. Instead, they choose to listen to preaching that pleases their worldliness, which does not convict them of wrongdoing or sin.

Beware of being caught up in worldliness, or foolishness in teaching, and with friends or relatives that are this way.

Your life is to be hid with Christ in God.

**JESUS CHRIST IS COME IN THE FLESH.**

#### GUIDELINES

When the enemy (or tares) sow bad doctrine or bad teaching, the good plants in the congregation can become confused. They may gasp for good teaching, as they are being strangled and dying for the lack of being fed good milk. A newborn Christian needs the milk of God's Word (which is good, sound doctrine) as a human baby needs good milk. If a baby is not fed, it can die.

When the enemy (or tares) sow bad doctrine or wrong teaching among the flock, the good plants in the congregation can become confused. They may gasp for good teaching, as they are being strangled and dying for the lack of good milk.

Talking and talking without God's Word in a sermon in the church is worthless. It benefits no born again person spiritually. It may only entertain them.

Satan is the master at deceiving people. The mind of every human being is constantly having thoughts.

The thoughts of the unbelievers are usually centered on themselves. It may be said their thoughts are centered on Me, Myself, and I.

However, the thoughts of a born again person, as they grow in Christ through His Word, begin

to change. Their mind begins to be renewed through being in God's Word. They become a new creature, a changed person, a person that is conforming to the image of Christ. They have repented and are being transformed. They are beginning to have the mind of Christ as they devour God's Word.

**BUT BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD AND NOT HEARERS ONLY, DECEIVING YOUR OWN SELVES-Ja 1:22.**

So what is Satan's number one priority? Keep the person away from their Bible and away from one of the few "BIBLE" teaching churches. The less a person reads the Bible, the easier it is for Satan to deceive them in their thoughts. Jesus used the Word to defeat Satan. Can you do the same?

Devour God's Word. It is your Rock.

**BAPTISM: STRANGE THINGS MAY HAPPEN**

God's Word says: Acts 2:38-REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED EVERYONE OF YOU IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS AND YE SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST.

A strange thing happens to some that come out of the water. All of a sudden, sin becomes more apparent to them, and they begin to hate sin. Even little white lies bother them.

All of a sudden, some realize that many things they are doing is sin and is not pleasing to God.

Does this happen to all that are immersed in baptism? No. One reason may be because they have not repented. They just want to go to heaven, but they have no intention of dying to themselves. Another reason is they have no faith. They may not have been in God's Word at all, or they do not really believe in Christ.

**Mt 13:31.** Another parable put he forth (or presented) unto them, saying, **The kingdom of heaven** is like to a **grain** of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed (or planted) in his **field**:

As has been said in **Mt 13:30**, Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers (or harvesters), Gather ye together first the tares (or weeds), and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

**Mt 13:31.** This is the **third of the seven parables** Jesus gave in this series.

This is the second parable in this series which relates to the **kingdom of heaven**.

In this verse, Jesus relates it to a **grain...of** mustard seed **which was planted**.

It was initially planted in Israel.

This seed is extremely small. It may be compared to a grain of sand, but perhaps a bit larger.

As in the previous parable, a **field** is mentioned. A field is where something can grow. A seed cannot grow unless it is planted.

In the previous parable, the good was planted by God, and the bad was planted by the devil. The two grew together, and then the good was gathered to the barn of Jesus, but the bad went to hell.

This parable had to do with the Kingdom that is yet to come.

As has been said in **Mt 13:31**, **Another parable** put he forth (or presented) unto them, saying, **The kingdom of heaven** is like to a **grain** of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed (or planted) in his **field**.

**Mt 13:32.** Which indeed is the least (or smaller) (or smallest) of all (your) (other) seeds: **but** when it is (full) grown, it is the greatest (or

**Mt 13:32.** The mustard seed is the least of all seeds. It is the smallest in Israel.

largest) among herbs (or it is the largest of the garden plants), and becometh (or becomes) a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge (or nest) (or perch) in the branches thereof.

There is another seed that is smaller, but it was not known in the Middle East.

Its beginning was Jesus, Who is God come in the flesh. The church is a result of Christ. This is portrayed by the mustard seed growing into a tree. These trees may grow up to about 16 feet in height.

Thus, we have a beginning that is listed as very, very small, but grows into something that is very large. There are other herbs, but none grow the size of this one.

First, there was the seed.

But then it grew.

**Jesus is the foundation. The foundation is one, but that one is God.**

Then came the 12 apostles.

Then there was 120 disciples from which Matthias was chosen to be one of the twelve.

Then, on Pentecost, they were filled with the Holy Ghost. The herb tree was growing. Many leaves were coming. They come, then died, but the tree lives on.

Then about 3000 received God's Word and were baptized.

After this about 5000 believed-Acts 4:4.

The tree was growing.

Then Paul began taking the Gospel to the Gentiles.

As the tree grew, many branches began to develop.

Although all branches on a tree are directly or indirectly connected to the foundation, yet the branches do have a different look. Some are weak and some strong. Some are like the

foundation, others are not. Some are straight, some are crooked. Some are thick, and some are sick.

The branches of the tree have become large, and there are many. The branches of this tree also include the addition of the Gentile church.

Regarding the teachings of the Bible, only a few now bring forth good, sound doctrine. One good branch may be called Philadelphia. Many others are otherwise. One is only lukewarm. This is mainly right now, and the believers that are currently coming forth are mainly wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. However, if one reads the Revelation carefully, they might see there are elements of the past 4 churches (Revelation—church 4,5,6,) in this last church age, which is number 7.

The church age began at the day of Pentecost. It will end with the Rapture.

Far fewer people will be raptured than most people realize. So few will be taken that one wonders if it will even be noticed. Most that are positive they will be taken, will not be. Most that call themselves a Christian are not conforming to the image of Christ. For most so-called Christians, the Word of God is not their life on a daily basis.

The tree is now over 1900 years old. Very few now preach as Jesus and the apostles once did. If they did, they might have fewer followers, but those followers would be strong in faith.

Such followers of Jesus also might have a violent end, as 11 of the 12 apostles did, or they might be in jail, as a few are today. In Moslem countries and a few others, there is always the danger of torture and a violent death for those that follow Christ.

The tree that was once the smallest of seeds

has become huge. The teaching of Jesus (the foundation) through missionaries, the radio, TV, the Internet, and other ways has nearly filled the world.

Birds of the air have lodged in its branches. However, the many birds (or fowls of the air) are not connected to the foundation. They are not a part of the tree, but they do make their nest or home in the tree and rest on its branches.

Satan (as fowl of the air) is not connected to the tree, but he sits on its branches and makes it his home. As the bad seed caused problems for the good seed, so the devil and his followers are behind the opposition to the born again followers of Christ.

Many denominations have developed that invoke the name of Jesus just like many other trees may grow around the herb tree. They claim they are the way. Some might even resemble the herb tree, but they are a counterfeit.

Satan is the home of many churches, but the people that go to them are not aware of them.

The foundation of the Roman Catholic Church dates back to Mystery Babylon, which was hundreds of years before Jesus came. The Bible, especially the Revelation, contains much information about it. These secrets are in the vaults of the Vatican. They contain things unknown to most people.

Many Catholics know little of its true history. It invokes some of the teachings of Christianity, but mixes it in with teachings from long before. The Bible makes it very, very clear in the Revelation, that it is not of the Lord, but rather tries to deceive the Lord's people. It is called the **Great Harlot**, as it seduces people with its splendor, beauty, and pomp. Few ever are able to break free of its almost hypnotic majesty.

It also sits on the branches of the herb tree. It is a counterfeit that masquerades as the genuine.

Behind all false religions that are sitting on the branches of the mustard tree is this:

Rev 12:9-Satan, which **deceiveth** the whole world.

2 Cor 11:14,15-And no marvel; for even **Satan fashioneth himself into an angel of light**. It is no great thing therefore if **his ministers also fashion themselves as ministers of righteousness**, whose end shall be according to their works. Do Satan's ministers know they are deceived by the devil? No.

As has been said in **Mt 13:32**, Which indeed is the least (or smaller) (or smallest) of all (your) (other) seeds: **but** when it is (full) grown, it is the greatest (or largest) among herbs (or it is the largest of the garden plants), and becometh (or becomes) a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge (or nest) (or perch) in the branches thereof.

**Mt 13:33**. This is the **fourth of seven** parables Jesus spoke unto them.

Again **the kingdom of heaven** is like what? It did not say the kingdom was **leaven**, but like it.

The key word here is **expansion**. It is like unto leaven or yeast.

The leaven was hid. Col 3:3 says-Your life is hid with Christ in God.

Leaven is symbolic for something that expands and increases.

Again, a woman is mentioned. She does not represent good, but rather **EVIL**. She took the leaven and **HID it**.

**Mt 13:33**. (Still) Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven (or yeast), which a woman took, and hid (or mixed) in three measures (or pecks) (or a large amount) of meal (or flour), (un)till the whole was leavened (or until it worked all through the dough).



She did this in three measures of meal representing God's Word.

The three measures of meal was a common measurement. Abraham said to Sarah in Gen 17:6-Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal.

The woman can represent Jezebel-Rev 2:20, or the great harlot in Rev 17, or many others.

The rest is history.

The Gospel has spread all over the world. However, in this last generation before the Rapture, the Gospel is, at best, only lukewarm, and it produces so-called Christians that are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.

This is an indication that at some time the Gospel will  
become watered-down,  
perverted,  
be taught falsely,  
or be taught in a deceptive way.

It can even indicate the Gospel of truth will become less and less used and may all but disappear.

1 Cor 5:1-7-shows us a person took his father's wife. And the people were puffed up about it. They were glorying about it.

Paul was very upset about this.

He made it clear that a **little leaven** makes the whole lump leavened.

The leaven hid in God's Word may be said in this way.

From one Gospel, there has spread about 25,000 different people claiming they are Christ,

and, so many different church teachings, or religions, who can number them.

And the people that go to them are unaware of them. The bad spreads like leaven, or we may say, like a wild fire. The good seems to increase very slowly, or, in this latter day generation, the Gospel had decreased at an alarming rate as prophesied.

Of all churches, **how many** are led by a born again pastor, that fears God and trembles at His Word, and that preaches God's Word more than stories?

Can you name one? Teaching like the apostles did or the church of 150 years ago did, has all but disappeared.

Some pastors are now women.

Leaven might be compared to oil on water. Even a little oil will spread over a very big area. As it becomes thinner and thinner, it increases in diameter.

It can be like a lynch mob that gets totally out of control.

### **IT IS SPEAKING OF SIN.**

Consider a person that lies and is dishonest. Next, he steals a loaf of bread, then a gun, then a car. It is like leaven.

Sin is increasing in the world. Everyone should know this. It is going to continue like leaven, expanding more and more, until finally toward the end of the Tribulation, sin will have come to a full. The whole will be leavened.

The church is now already full of leaven. The churches of deceit far outnumber those few that diligently study the Bible, fear God, and tremble at His Word.

Because the "so-called" Christians are so ignorant of what the Bible says, they **easily fall** for many of the deceitful things many preachers say.

Some of the most popular preachers are now psychology teachers. They are careful not to preach as Jesus and the apostles did. Some have become very rich in doing this, as people want to hear they are going to heaven, yet they live a life of no repentance and void of God's Word.

This is the age of new fads and new experiences that come along in the churches. Because people know almost nothing of the Bible, they can fall for nearly everything else.

Leaven indicates a corrupt presentation of the Gospel spreading through the devil's influence.

The churches are lukewarm, and the church-goers are now wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, but they do not know this. Note the seventh church of the Revelation—today's so-called Christian church. However, there are also elements of the previous three.

But, then, if this was not the way it is, we might not be in the latter days.

Christianity claims well over a billion people. However, Jesus said: "Few there be that find it."

Considering that perhaps not one person in over 4 billion believes they will really go to hell, yet most will. Or maybe there are some that believe they will go to hell, but they have no idea how horrific the torment will be, and there is no second chance, no escape. This reveals just how deceived people really are.

Devouring God's Word is not on most people's menus and neither is preaching a lot of God's

Note the meat of God's Word.....

**Mt 13:34.** All these things spake (or spoke) Jesus unto the multitude (or crowd) in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them.

Word on many churches menus.

The new Gospel is storytelling with a couple scriptures, but also prosperity and psychology, and the list goes on.

Repentance, denying oneself, conforming to the image of Christ, sell that thou hast, a total surrender to Jesus are just a few things that seem to have disappeared from the Gospel. Then water baptism by immersion has been replaced by sprinkling in many churches that have little understanding of God's Word.

How about preaching on hell, and the judgments, the lake of fire, and God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints? Where are they anymore? Praise God, a few are teaching on the Rapture, Tribulation, Armageddon and the second coming.

.....And what about the **meat** of God's Word? Does **anyone** even know what this is?

#### **IT IS PERFECTION.**

How does a minister preach perfection when he does not even know what it is?

How can this be preached to people that don't understand the milk of God's Word, and their Bible collects dust?

As it has been said in **Mt 13:33**, (Still) Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven (or yeast), which a woman took, and hid (or mixed) in three measures (or pecks) (or a large amount) of meal (or flour), (un)till the whole was leavened (or until it worked all through the dough).

**Mt 13:34.** This verse stresses that regarding His teaching, He spoke to the multitudes only in parables. However, to His disciples, He brought forth much more.

**Mt 13:35.** That it might be fulfilled (or so was fulfilled) which was spoken by the prophet, saying,

I will open my mouth in parables;

I will utter things which have been kept secret (or hidden) from the foundation of the world.

**Mt 13:36.** Then Jesus sent the multitude (or crowd) away (or He left the multitudes) (or crowd), and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare (or explain) unto us the parable of the tares (or weeds) of (or in) the field.

**Mt 13:37.** He answered and said unto them, He (or the one) that soweth (or sowed) the good seed is the Son of man;

As it has been said in **Mt 13:34**, All these things spake (or spoke) Jesus unto the multitude (or crowd) in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them.

**Mt 13:35.** Some would understand the parables. Some would not. Some would ridicule His teaching. Some would repent and may even cry.

This the verse Jesus referred to is Ps 78:2. It tells us: I WILL OPEN MY MOUTH IN A PARABLE: I WILL UTTER DARK SAYINGS OF OLD.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:35**, That it might be fulfilled (or so was fulfilled) which was spoken by the prophet, saying,

I will open my mouth in parables;

I will utter things which have been kept secret (or hidden) from the foundation of the world.

**Mt 13:36.** The multitude left at the command of Jesus. **Jesus went into a house.**

Jesus had originally come out of a house, which may have been Peter's. He sat by the Sea of Galilee-ref Mt 13:1, but then He got into a boat, and the multitude were on the seashore.

The disciples asked Jesus to explain to them the parable of the tares of the field. If we go by the response of Jesus, they had asked for more.

Jesus now goes about to explain many things.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:36**, Then Jesus sent the multitude (or crowd) away (or He left the multitudes) (or crowd), and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare (or explain) unto us the parable of the tares (or weeds) of (or in) the field.

**Mt 13:37.** (ref verses 24 to 30). The good seed is **the Word of God**. This is what Jesus sowed.

Few preachers, anymore, teach the good seed. They teach about almost everything under the sun it seems. This includes their personal adventures, news about their family and kids, what they did on vacation, and the list is almost endless. And when they give their carefully crafted sermons, their personal stories illustrate the points they wish to make, rather than using the Word of God. They don't seem to comprehend preaching the Word with the Word.

What if the entire Bible contained only two chapters of God's Word, and then lots and lots of nice personal stories. Of what eternal value would it be? Is this what you would want to study? The answer apparently is yes, because all sorts of books are read daily by millions of people while their Bible is hidden away

Or we may ask, do you even want to study the Bible at all? Is it a closed book, or a book you do not understand, because of the hardness that is in your heart?

The apostles craved God's Word far more than you do. Isn't this right? They forsook all to follow the Word. What have you forsaken in order to study God's Word daily and follow Jesus?

Remember, the scripture we are using is:  
He that soweth the good seed (which is **God's Word**) is the Son of man;

So now, "I" will tell a story. Some time back a certain person was looking for a good Bible-teaching church for a friend that lived in another area. He kept his search to a certain denomination as their doctrine was more in line with what the Bible teaches.

As this person called many ministers on the phone, one after another, their answers all

seemed like carbon copies. Their answers to questions were not biblical answers, but published denominational information.

When asking them specific things regarding the Scriptures, they either could not answer or sidestepped it.

The overall evaluation was they knew far more about their denomination's teaching than they did about what God's Word said. It was very sad.

The next scripture is written with personal notes injected.

2 Tim 4:3-For the time will come when they (the people or the congregations of the churches) will not endure sound doctrine (from the Bible); but, (because their itching ears will seek for things, which do not convict them of sin or make them uncomfortable), (they) will (gather) to themselves teachers (that preach what their {self-centered, unrepentant} ears desire to hear and does not irritate them.

The KJV scripture reads: For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

Again, the verse reads: **Mt 13:37**-He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the **good seed** is the Son of man.

But preachers of God's Word in these latter days sow all sorts of things, while Scripture takes a back seat, and many people love to have it this way.

For many, the church is a place to be comfortable and to be entertained. It is a place to hear nice music and an uplifting, edifying message.

**Mt 13:38.** The field is the world; (and) the good seed are (or stands for) the children (or sons) of the **kingdom**; but the tares (or weeds) are the children (or sons) of the wicked (or evil) one.

For most, it is not a place to hear about sin, and repentance. It is not a place to hear words like, sell that thou hast and pick up your cross every day, and read, and obey God's Word.

Rev 3:16, 17-So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee (or spit you) out of my mouth (or we may say, out of heaven)

You do not know that you are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. This is probably pertaining to you.

Very few people today reflect Jesus, including the preachers.

Could Jesus be standing at the door of your heart telling you to repent?

As has been said in **Mt 13:37**, He answered and said unto them, He (or the one) that soweth (or sowed) the good seed is the Son of man;

**Mt 13:38.** The **field** stood for the world, not just for Israel. At that time, they did not understand that the world was a far bigger than they knew.

The **good seed** are not the people of the world, but are the children of the kingdom. The children of the thousand year kingdom will consist of both Jews and Gentiles. However, at that time, Israel did not understand such a thing.

The tares are the children of the devil. This would include both unsaved Jews and Gentiles from all nations as well.

It is noted that the world thinks the devil does not even exist. The people of the world do not even have a hint the evil thoughts they have are from the devil.

The Bible is the Word of God, the Creator of all



**Mt 13:39 Pt 1.** (And) The enemy that sowed them is the devil.

(The second part of this verse follows)

things; yet neither does the world believe this—for if they did, surely they would read it.

As has been said in **Mt 13:38**, The field is the world; (and) the good seed are (or stands for) the children (or sons) of the **kingdom**; but the tares (or weeds) are the children (or sons) of the wicked (or evil) one.

**Mt 13:39 Pt 1.** The **enemy** that sowed the tares is the devil. The word **enemy** reveals that Satan is the embodiment of evil, wickedness, and hatred.

Anyone that follows Jesus is the devil's enemy, and he is their enemy. Jesus is love. The devil is the opposite.

The devil was created by God to do exactly what he is doing. He was created to tempt mankind. The many evil and hateful thoughts a person has, sometimes even minute by minute, are from the devil. He heads the kingdom of darkness. He was the most beautiful and intelligent angel God ever created.

The devil wants to be God.

It is written: Isa 14:12-17-How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High.

Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?

The Bible gives us a clear example of what would happen in the world, if Satan was bound and sealed, as will be the case during the millennial reign of Jesus.

Love and peace will reign. The world will love the Jewish people.

Wars will cease. Neighbor will love neighbor.

This will be the case after Armageddon, when Satan will be bound and sealed for 1000 years.

But then, when Satan is loosed for a little season, there will be one final rebellion.

The world does not even believe there is such a being as Satan. The Bible reveals there is.

This reveals the power he has to deceive.

Thus, a person's thoughts that the Bible is not true, or the Bible's words don't really mean what they say, are from the devil.

As has been revealed: If Satan was sealed so he could deceive no one any longer, every person's thoughts on earth would immediately change. Satan was created to deceive. His powers to do so are beyond a person's understanding.

**Mt 13:39 Pt 2.** Two things are said here. One is the **harvest**.

The other term used here is "the **end of the world**" or **end of the age**. Both 39 and 40 use these words.

There are two opinions on this subject.

**Mt 13:39 Pt 2.** (and) The harvest is the **end of the world (or age)**; and the reapers (or harvesters) are the angels.

One is that this is at the time of Christ's return, when Jesus will set up His kingdom on the earth for 1000 years. It is also the time Satan will be bound for 1000 years.

The other opinion is it will be the **harvest** at the **end of the world**.

This is when the heavens and earth pass away. This is after the millennial reign of Jesus Christ, Satan being let loose, and the final rebellion.

**The end of the world is the time that the heavens and earth pass away, and God makes all things new.**

Again, some believe this is right after Armageddon, which is the Great White Throne Judgment.

Others believe It is the time that the holy city and the camp of the saints are surrounded by the world. At that time, the heavens and the world do pass away, and the end of the earth has come to pass.

As has been said in **Mt 13:39 Pt 2**. (and) The harvest is the **end of the world (or age)**; and the reapers (or harvesters) are the angels.

**Mt 13:40**. There appears to be **two** events listed here. Each occurs at a different time.

Also in verse 38 the wording of the children of the "Kingdom" is used.

There is some confusion regarding this verse, and there are varied opinions.

The end of the world is after the Millennium and the end of the Kingdom is when the heavens and earth shall pass away.

**Mt 13:40**. As therefore the tares (or weeds) are gathered (or pulled) (up) and burned in the fire; so shall it be **in the end of this world KJV (or end of this age)-NAS, NIV, JNT**.

The end of this age is after Armageddon, when Jesus returns.

The first part is at the time Jesus returns. The tares are gathered. The second is about 1000 years later at the end of the world.

When Jesus returns, the **JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS** is held.

It seems clear the reapers, which are angels, are gathering whoever is left alive for the Judgment of the Nations. Jesus will sit on the Throne of His Glory. At the Judgment, the tares (or unbelievers, or goats) are cast into the lake of fire. They should be easy to identify. They took the mark and worshiped the image; however, Mt 25 reveals them being judged another way.

The sheep will go into the millennial kingdom. They will repopulate the earth.

The second part talks about the **end of the world**. This should be after the 1000 year reign of Christ and after Satan is loosed, and he goes forth to deceive the nations once again.

The people of the world surround the camp of the saints and the city of Jerusalem. Fire comes down from heaven and destroys them. As the tares were gathered and burned in the fire in the Judgment of the Nations, so now, in the **end of this world**, it shall be also.

As has been said in **Mt 13:40**, As therefore the tares (or weeds) are gathered (or pulled) (up) and burned in the fire; so shall it be **in the end of this world (or end of this age)**.

**Mt 13:41**. The kingdom mentioned here is the **millennium kingdom**, when Jesus shall reign and rule for 1000 years as the King of kings and Lord of lords.

**Mt 13:41**. The Son of man shall send forth (or send out) his angels, and they shall gather (or weed) **out of his kingdom** all things (or stumbling blocks) that offend (or all that cause people to sin), and (all) them which do iniquity

(or do evil) (or cause lawlessness);

Some believe this verse relates to the Judgment of the Nations following the time Jesus returns at Armageddon.

Others believe this judgment takes place **after the Millennium**, when Satan is loosed from his prison, and there is one final rebellion, and the heavens and earth shall pass away. Satan will then be cast into the lake of fire for eternity.

The Rapture is expected to be on the Feast of Trumpets, which is usually in September. Two trumpets are blown. The first trumpet is the dead in Christ shall arise, and the second trumpet is we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The Jewish feast dates suggest the millennial kingdom may begin in September or October. God gave a calendar to the Jewish people through 7 feasts. Every one has come to pass thus far on its exact date with no exceptions.

First, Jesus sends forth His angels. They gather all that offend or cause a person to sin and them that commit iniquity.

The actual millennial reign of the King of kings does not begin until after the Judgment of the Nations.

It begins on a feast date.

During the millennial reign of Jesus as the King of kings and Lord of lords, the world will love the Jew. People will live, it appears, the entire length of the Millennium. A child shall be a hundred years old, it appears-ref Isa 65:20.

With Satan out of the picture and in the pit and sealed so he can deceive no longer, sin will almost come to a complete halt.

Love will prevail. During this time, it appears,

that **any which cause an offense or commits iniquity shall be gathered by angels.**

"The Seven Feasts of Israel"

These do appear to be a timetable that God has given those that follow Him.

It was required that all males (12 and up) go to Jerusalem 3 times a year. The first 3 feasts come during the spring, usually around April.

The fourth one comes during the summer.

The last three come during the fall, in September and often into October.

Jewish calendar.

1. PASSOVER. Occurs on the fourteenth day of the first month. On this day, Jesus was crucified. This has been fulfilled.

2. UNLEAVENED BREAD. Occurs on the fifteenth day of the first month. On this day, Jesus was buried. This has been fulfilled.

3. FIRST FRUITS. Occurs on the Sunday following Unleavened Bread. On this day, Jesus was resurrected. This has been fulfilled.

4. PENTECOST. Occurs on the fiftieth day after First Fruits. It is also called the Feast of Weeks in the Old Testament. On this day, the Holy Spirit came in His fullness. This has been fulfilled.

5. TRUMPETS. Occurs on the first day of the seventh month. It represents the Rapture. This has not yet been fulfilled. This is usually in September.

6. ATONEMENT. Occurs on the tenth day of the seventh month. It is the repentance of Israel, when they shall look upon Him, Whom

**Mt 13:42.** And shall cast (or throw) them into a (fiery) furnace of fire: (where) there shall be wailing (or weeping) and gnashing of teeth.

they have pierced. This is at the time of Armageddon, when Jesus returns. It has not yet been fulfilled. This is usually in September.

7. TABERNACLES. Occurs on the fifteenth day of the seventh month. It is the coming state of rest (the Millennium), when Jesus will reign on this earth for one thousand years. This has not yet been fulfilled.

These were ordained in the Old Testament and are a timetable covering seven Biblical events, of which, four have been fulfilled. The last three should be fulfilled in the near future.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:41**, The Son of man shall send forth (or send out) his angels, and they shall gather (or weed) **out of his kingdom** all things (or stumbling blocks) that offend (or all that cause people to sin), and (all) them which do iniquity (or do evil) (or cause lawlessness);

**Mt 13:42.** Verses 42 and 50 are nearly identical.

And they (those that sin during the Millennium) shall be cast into the eternal lake of fire. These are those that are gathered out of the thousand year kingdom. Any that sin, when Satan cannot deceive them, are removed and immediately punished where there is eternal torment, crying, and screaming, and gnashing of teeth. Note, even after a person dies on this earth, they still have their voice. They can still cry. They still have their teeth.

All that die without Christ are ultimately doomed to the eternal lake of fire.

**Take note:**

No priest, no human being can forgive sins. Read your Bible, and see for yourself. Don't let the lies many preach persuade you to believe things the Bible refutes.

There is only one way—that is repentance and placing your trust in Jesus Christ. Afterward, a person is commanded to obey the Gospel and be baptized by full immersion and to follow and do His Word.

**How can a person obey God's Word, if they do not read it???????**

Regarding eternal judgment, some very uninformed people make jokes like: "Well, at least, I'll see my loved ones there."

Perhaps the worse part of being in the eternal lake of fire may not be the horrible torment of being in a continual fire. It may be the realization there is no hope of a parole. There is no hope of escape. There is no hope of any kind at all. There is just the torment from the flames that will never, never, never end.

The rich man in hell right now is tormented in the flames. He cries out for his brethren hoping someone will warn them not to come into this place of torment.

Abraham told them in a manner of speaking: They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them. In other words, they have the Bible.

His reply was that they will not hear that. The final outcome is this. If a person will not hear or read the Bible, then nothing else will persuade them to repent.

**HELL AND THE LAKE OF FIRE  
SCRIPTURES ON HELL  
AND THE LAKE OF FIRE**

Hell is a place of consciousness-ref Lk 16:23,24.

a place of DARKNESS-Mt 8:12.

eternal separation from your loved ones-ref Lk



13:28.

not the slightest hope of release-ref Mt 25:46.

There is the torment of memory in hell. You may remember every single chance you had to repent, yet you refused-ref Lk 16:27,28.

It is written: WHOSOEVER WAS NOT FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE WAS CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE-ref Rev-20:15.

HELL FIRE-Mt 18:9; Mk 9:47.

DEVOURING FIRE-Isa 33:14.

EVERLASTING FIRE-Mt 25:41.

a FIRE THAT NEVER SHALL BE QUENCHED-Mk 9:43.

THE LAKE OF FIRE AND BRIMSTONE-Rev 20:10.

COALS OF FIRE-Pv 25:22.

UNQUENCHABLE FIRE-Mt 3:12.

FURNACE OF FIRE-Mt 13:42.

VENGEANCE OF ETERNAL FIRE-Jude 7.

RAGING FIRE THAT WILL CONSUME THE ENEMIES OF GOD-Heb 10:27 NIV.

TORMENTED WITH FIRE AND BRIMSTONE-Rev 14:10.

ETERNAL JUDGMENT-Heb 6:2.

EVERLASTING BURNINGS-Isa 33:14.

EVERLASTING CONTEMPT-Dan 12:2.

EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT-Mt 25:46.

EVERLASTING DESTRUCTION-2 Thes 1:9.

TORMENTED DAY AND NIGHT FOR EVER AND EVER-Rev 20:10.

THEY ARE BURNED-Jn 15:6.

WHERE THEIR WORM DIETH NOT, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED-Mk 9:46.

THE SMOKE OF THEIR TORMENT ASCENDETH UP FOR EVER AND EVER: AND THEY HAVE NO REST DAY NOR NIGHT-Rev 14:11.

SHAME-Dan 12:2.

PAINS OF HELL-Ps 116:3.

OUTER DARKNESS-Mt 8:12.

WEeping AND GNASHING OF TEETH-Mt 8:12.

WAILING AND GNASHING OF TEETH-Mt 13:42.

HE LIFT UP HIS EYES, BEING IN TORMENTS-Lk 16:23.

AND HE CRIED...I AM TORMENTED IN THIS FLAME-Lk 16:24.

HAVE MERCY ON ME-Lk 16:24.

This is the eternal destiny for most people.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:42**, And shall cast (or throw) them into a (fiery) furnace of fire: (where) there shall be wailing (or weeping) and gnashing of teeth.

**Mt 13:43.** Then shall the righteous shine forth as (or like) the sun in the kingdom of their

**Mt 13:43.** Note the similarity of Mt 13:43 to Daniel 12:3-And they that be wise shall shine as

Father. (He) Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

the brightness of the firmament. The verse ends with "Who hath ears to hear, let him hear."

Not all have eyes to see clearly, and ears to understand God's Word.

There are many reasons for this. It starts with a lack of repentance and may end at people putting the traditions of denominations, churches, and clergy ahead of the pure Word of God.

1 Cor 15:24-28 gives us a look at the end. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

Mt 13:43-is speaking of eternity. Note the words "the Kingdom of their Father". **THE** Father should be the Father of all that have repented, and placed their trust in Jesus Christ through faith, and obeyed God in water baptism by full immersion, **as it is written**, and denied themselves, and picked up their cross daily and followed Jesus. **Jesus is the Word.**

But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him, and to every seed his own body.

So what shall the bodies of the sons of God be like in heaven (plus other information)?

Here are a few:

Some will be called "the **least**" in the kingdom of heaven.

Some shall be called "**great**" in the kingdom of heaven.

Those in heaven shall be **changed**.

Some shall have only one **crown**.

Some shall have more than one **crown**.

They shall be able to **eat**.

It shall be a body that has some sort of **glory**.

They shall be **immortal**.

They will be **incorruptible**.

They will **shine** like the sun in the kingdom of heaven.

They shall have a **spiritual body**.

**Continuing with the commentary for Mt 13:43.**

The Millennium

The raptured and resurrected saints, they return to this earth during the Millennium with their new bodies. They shall reign over tens, fifties, hundreds, thousands. Some shall reign over a city or many cities. During the Millennium, the population of the world will explode, a person of 100 years old shall be considered as a mere child.

1 Cor 15:57, 58-But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Something very important to consider.

There may be a gauge that, in part,

**YOU CAN JUDGE YOURSELF. HERE IT IS.**

THE AMOUNT YOU READ YOUR BIBLE NOW OR LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD **EQUALS** THE AMOUNT YOU WANT TO BE WITH JESUS IN HEAVEN.

How can this be said, you may ask? It is

**Mt 13:44.** Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto **treasure** hid(den) in a **field**; the which when a man hath found (it), he hideth (or hid) (it again), and for (or from) (his) joy thereof goeth (or went) and selleth (or goes and sells) all that he hath (or has), and buyeth (or buys) (or bought) that **field**.

because Jesus is God's Word, and God's Word is Jesus. If you do not desire to read or listen to God's Word now, then neither would you want to be **WITH THE WORD** in heaven.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:43**, Then shall the righteous shine forth as (or like) the sun in the kingdom of their Father. (He) Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

**Mt 13:44.** This is the fifth parable in this series.

This parable and the next one go together.

This parable is of the treasure and the field.

The words "the kingdom of heaven" appear 8 times in the Bible. All are in Matthew's Gospel.

Now Jesus gives us these words, regarding the kingdom of heaven.

It "is like unto **treasure HID in a field**."

The man finds the treasure that was hid in the field. But there is a problem. The field was not his.

So the person went, it appears, and he hid the treasure in another location, thus protecting it from being found by another.

He was joyful. He went and sold everything that he had so he could buy that field, which he did.

One can think of a person's joy, if he found a great treasure in some field.

The Bible covers this with these words: Mt 16:26-For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

So what does all this mean? The meaning of the 3 major items is not given in the Bible.

It is left to the individual's personal understanding of the Scriptures.

These 3 items are the treasure,  
the merchant,

and the pearls and/or the pearl of great price.

The one listed first is what appears to be the most popular choice.

Opinions on the **treasure** are these:

It represents **ISRAEL**.

However some believe it can represent Christ, the Gospel, and salvation.

Opinions on the man or **merchant** are these: It represents **JESUS**. However some believe it can represent a merchant, or a man being saved.

Opinions on the **Pearl** are these:

It represents The **CHURCH**. However some believe it can represent Christ, or salvation.

Regretfully, Israel in these latter days is in a state of rebellion against Jesus, as this is being written. Israel, many times in the past, and also right now, does not want to obey God.

But soon after the Tribulation comes, Russia will come against Israel with a military force such as the world may have never seen. Israel is without hope. They cry out to God, and God responds.

Five-sixths of the Russian and its allied forces are destroyed by God. Then Israel knows there is a God, and He watches over Israel. A great revival then takes place.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:44**, Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid(den) in a field; the which when a man hath found (it), he hideth (or hid) (it again), and for (or from) (his) joy thereof goeth (or went) and selleth (or goes and sells) all that he hath (or has), and buyeth (or buys) (or bought) that field.

**Mt 13:45.** Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a **merchant man**, seeking (or looking for) goodly (or fine) pearls:

**Mt 13:46.** Who, when he had found one **pearl of great price** (or of great value), (he) went (away) and sold all (or everything) that he had, and bought it.

**Mt 13:45.** The **merchant man is believed to be JESUS**. He is looking for something better—goodly or fine pearls.

He is seeking for fine pearls that will bring Him much increase. He, being a merchant of pearls, would already be rich.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:45**, Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a **merchant man**, seeking (or looking for) goodly (or fine) pearls:

**Mt 13:46.** The merchant man, which is Jesus, finds the **pearl of great price, which is believed to be the CHURCH**.

Jesus, who is God, that has come to this earth in the flesh or human form, paid a great price. He left His throne in heaven and taught for about 3 years. He was often hindered by the religious leaders of His time, that is, the servants of the devil.

Yet He raised the dead, taught what His Father gave Him to teach, and then was crucified. However, He rose from the dead.

Again, Jesus did this for the pearl of great price, which is all those that would place their hope and trust in Him as their only possible hope of salvation and eternal life. He is the most special of all special pearls.

Jesus finds those that seek Him.

Jesus also finds those that are not seeking Him, however, once He reveals Himself to them (mainly through His Word), they repent.

Jesus created man, but man rebelled.

Now Jesus is seeking for those whose heart is right, to be reunited to Him through faith.

As already said, verse 45 is Israel. Verse 46 is the church.

### Note

It is written: Ps 50:5-Gather my saints together unto me, those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.

The end for most is hell, followed by the Judgment, and then the eternal lake of fire.

Because most have no biblical knowledge, they are in darkness.

The only thing that can bring inner peace is Jesus.

Virtually **no one really believes** they will go to hell and eternal torment, yet the number that do is far, far higher than nearly anyone will imagine.

Read the Bible yourself. See if these things are so.

It is written in Lk 18:22-Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: **sell all that thou hast**, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.

Now the question arises. Jesus gave all for the church—the pearl of great price. Will you give all of yourself to Jesus in return? or will you be like the rich man that went away sad, when Jesus told him to forsake all he had?

Foolish people esteem the things they have now on this earth for no more than about 100 years, of more value than an infinite number of years (or forever and ever) with riches, glory, and authority.

So many deceive themselves thinking that by their Catholic religion, or some church, all will turn out OK. It doesn't. Read the Revelation. The Great Harlot shall perish.

Through Jesus comes a new glorious body.

Through Jesus also comes the glorious city of New Jerusalem.

Through Jesus also comes the new heavens



and the new earth.

What treasure on this earth would you give to obtain all this?

Would a person forsake all now for all this? A wise person would.

But Satan puts in a person's thoughts that they do not have to repent, read or hear and obey the Gospel. People choose to believe what they want to believe. Life is that test.

The treasure, of course, is Jesus, which is the Word of God, which leads to eternal life, and the Kingdom of Heaven, and the city of New Jerusalem.

It is written in Col 2:2, 3-That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto **all riches** of the full assurance of **understanding**, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; **In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

But most, in this generation, choose to have joy for a season and the things of this earth for a few years, but then they inherit the lake of fire for time without end.

And they shall get what they seek. But when they get it, they will regret their decision, for time that never ends.

What will you give in exchange for YOUR soul? You must deny yourself, and take up the cross and follow Jesus, or you will perish.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:46**, Who, when he had found one **pearl of great price** (or of great value), (he) went (away) and sold all (or everything) that he had, and bought it.

**Mt 13:47.** (Once) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net (or dragnet), that was

**Mt 13:47.** The last of the seven parables is this. It is relating to the Judgment of the

cast (or let down) into the sea (or lake), and gathered (or caught) (fish) of every kind:

**Mt 13:48.** Which, when it was full, they (the fishermen) drew (or pulled it up) to shore (or up on the beach), and sat down, and (then) gathered the good (fish) into vessels (or containers) (or baskets), but cast (or threw) the bad away.

Nations.

The **kingdom of heaven is like a net.** Fishermen may comprehend this easily.

A dragnet is a weighted net. It is pulled along the bottom of the water. It can be pulled in between two boats. It can be pulled to shore by some ropes.

When it is finally pulled up it may have a wide variety of fish and other things.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:47**, (Once) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net (or dragnet), that was cast (or let down) into the sea (or lake), and gathered (or caught) (fish) of every kind:

**Mt 13:48.** At the Judgment. the good and bad will be sorted

When the Word was brought forth, people from the four corners of the world, people of every nationality, people of all languages were caught, both Jews and Gentiles alike.

The number caught was very large. The net was completely filled.

Then, when the **right time came**, the net was brought in, being completely full of people.

Then the Judgment came.

**The Great White Throne Judgment** is for those that perish. The degree of eternal punishment is determined. It is the eternal lake of fire. Stripes are given. Some receive a few, others many. A person that has followed Christ, but **then turned back to willful sin** and rebellion against God, shall receive many stripes.

Woe to "that" person, if they do not repent before it is too LATE.

**The Judgment Seat of Christ** is for those that

inherit eternal life. Crowns and rewards are given. They will return with Jesus, at the time of Armageddon, riding upon (as the Bible states) white horses. The term "horses" may represent vehicles.

They will have their new resurrection bodies.

Some will reign over tens, or hundreds, or thousands during the Millennium. Some will reign over cities.

Those people that truly responded to Jesus Christ (the good kind) were gathered unto Him. This, in another parable, would be the wheat.

Those that were still of the world, the unrepentant, (that is, the bad), these were discarded. These would be the tares. This includes multitudes of faithful church-goers that do all kinds of good works, but they are not born again. Christ is not in them.

Many that don't attend church are confident all will turn out all right, even though they don't know what lies ahead. Upon dying, they will be in hell, as some clergy stands over their dead body saying they are now in a better place. Did you ever hear a clergy say they went to hell, even though most do? Yes, many clergy lie. They are in darkness themselves.

Many that attend church are confident all will turn out all right as they go to church. Yet they will be cast away.

The number of good fish (those in Christ) compared to the number of bad (those without Christ) are so few, that barely no Christians today would believe it.

As it has been covered in **Mt 13:48**, Which, when it was full, they (the fishermen) drew (or pulled it up) to shore (or up on the beach), and sat down, and (then) gathered the good (fish)

**Mt 13:49.** So shall it be (or this is how it will be) at the end of the world (or age): the angels shall come forth, and sever (or take out) (or separate) the wicked from among the just (or righteous),

into vessels (or containers) (or baskets), but cast (or threw) the bad away.

**Mt 13:49.** Verses 47 to 50 relate to the Judgment of the Nations, which is right after Armageddon.

The order of events is: Armageddon, the Judgment of the Nations, then the Millennium.

**There are more verses in the Bible regarding the Battle of Armageddon than any other single event.**

**The 7 Feasts of Israel give the times when 7 events will occur. It does not give the years.**

**Other verses do give us a general time period, often based on the rebirth of Israel, which occurred on May 14, 1948. This single event began, what the Bible calls, the latter days/times/years.**

**We are now in the latter days of the end times.**

Armageddon itself is only 24 hours long. Jesus returns, but the destruction on the earth is beyond describing.

The entire earth shall become an earthquake.

All the mountains will be made low.

All the valleys shall raise up.

There will be few men left alive.

The earth shall move out of her place.

The number of biblical events that happen during Armageddon is app 227.

There are actually several judgments that will be held.

The Judgment of the Damned (the Great White Throne) is not the same as the Judgment of the Just.

At the end of the world (or age), the angels of God shall separate the wicked from the just.

As has been covered in **Mt 13:49**, So shall it

**Mt 13:50.** And shall cast (or throw) them into the furnace of fire (or fiery furnace): (where) there shall be wailing (or weeping) and gnashing of teeth.

be (or this is how it will be) at the end of the world (or age): the angels shall come forth, and sever (or take out) (or separate) the wicked from among the just (or righteous),

**Mt 13:50.** Verses 42 and 50 are nearly identical.

Verses 42 and 50 do not appear to be at the end of the thousand years. At that time, Satan is loosed from being in hell for a little season. He goes forth to deceive the nations for the last time. There is a final rebellion and then the heavens and earth pass away.

These two verses appear to be at the Judgment of the Nations following Armageddon.

Regarding the end of the Millennium, those that sin during the Millennium, these shall be cast into the eternal lake of fire. These are the ones that are gathered out of the thousand year kingdom.

Any that sin, when Satan cannot deceive them, are removed and immediately punished, where there is eternal torment, crying, and screaming and gnashing of teeth. Note, even after a person dies on this earth, they still have their voice, and their memory. They can still cry. They still have their teeth, they still have feelings.

All that die without Christ are ultimately doomed to the eternal lake of fire.

Then shall the wicked be cast into the everlasting fire.

The **first** judgment is when a person dies. The wheat goes to be with Jesus.

The tares go to a place called hell, awaiting the final judgment.

**Second**, there is the **Judgment of the Nations** at His coming. The sheep are on right side, the goats on the left.

**Third.** There are **continuing judgments**

during the Millennium that could cause a person to be immediately killed. Jesus will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

**Fourth.** There is the division of the people just before the heavens and earth pass away. Then shall come forth a New Heaven and a New Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Also the incredible city of God comes forth. It is called the New Jerusalem.

It appears to be shaped like a cube and is approximately 1500 miles, by 1500 miles, by 1500 miles.

This will be the end of the earth as we know it.

Some will be in Jerusalem or the camp of the saints.

The rest of the world (the tares) will be gathered against Jerusalem and the camp. Fire will come down from heaven and destroy the rebellious. Thus, all those born during the Millennium, but were never tested because Satan had been sealed, after Satan is let loose there is one final rebellion. Actually, it may be said, the people judge themselves by which choice they make. This judgment may be the largest.

Since the people will live far longer during the Millennium, (and Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords in Jerusalem), the population will explode. At this time, Satan is sealed, so he cannot deceive the nations any longer. Love, peace, and prosperity shall abound. The curse that is now on the ground will cease. Even the animals will be different. This time period is seldom covered by ministers, yet there is an abundance of Scripture covering the Millennium.

As written in verse 49-So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just.

As previously stated, there are actually several times when judgment will take place.

The first is at hand. When a person dies they immediately go to a place called hell. This is a waiting place of torment.

Then they will be delivered up to the Great White Throne Judgment. Their future is sealed. Here they will be beaten with a few or many stripes, depending on the severity of their sin.

A person that never received Christ, but neither had he committed horrible abominations, he shall receive a few stripes and then be cast into the lake of fire.

A person that received Christ as their Savior and received the forgiveness of their sins, but then turned from Christ, lost their faith, and went back to wickedness, this person will receive many stripes. They, in effect, trampled the blood of Christ under their feet.

As already covered, they had their initial sins washed away by the precious blood of Christ. It was done. They were under the blood of Christ.

But, then, they committed **one of the worst sins**.

They forsook Christ and went right back to wickedness. They went back to wallowing in the mud.

This person shall be horribly beaten with stripes that will be on their body for eternity, making the punishment in the lake of fire even more severe.

God's Word makes it very clear. Do not turn from Christ after you have received forgiveness for your sins.

The messages of the seven parables can be understood by those that belong to Christ. They are as a closed book to the unrepentant and make-believe Christians.

The seven parables are finished. The subject

**Mt 13:51.** Jesus saith unto them, Have ye (or you) understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea (or yes), Lord.

of the kingdom of God is complete.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:50**, And shall cast (or throw) them into the furnace of fire (or fiery furnace): (where) there shall be wailing (or weeping) and gnashing of teeth.

**Mt 13:51.** The telling of the parables had just ended.

The unusual question that Jesus asked those with Him who were listening indicates the importance of these seven parables.

They responded that they understood.

***As they understood, so are we to understand.***

It is written in Mt 13:16-BUT BLESSED ARE YOUR EYES, FOR THEY SEE: AND YOUR EARS, FOR THEY HEAR.

Regretfully, many think they understand, but they do not. Darkness is their understanding and that same darkness makes them believe they see and understand, but their actions and fruits testify otherwise. When a person might ask nearly all professing Christians what is the meaning of a certain parable, they cannot answer, or their answer is far from accurate.

Many say they are saved. They believe they know Christ, but the question is, does He know them?

Few there be whose life has been transformed through God's Word, and few there be that continue steadfast in obedience to the Bible.

Many talk about Jesus when around their church on Sunday, but in their everyday life and around their friends and relatives, Jesus is no where to be found.

Most shall hear Jesus say to them, "I never knew you," but this is not even in their thoughts.



**Mt 13:52.** Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe (or teacher of the law) which is (or has been) instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder (or is like the owner of a house), which bringeth forth out of his treasure (or storeroom) (things) (or treasures) new and (as well as) old.

Ask most churchgoers today what this or that parable means, and oftentimes their answer may be unkind.

The religious leaders during the times of Jesus did not understand the parables that Jesus put forth; however, those that were ordained to eternal life did understand.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:51**, Jesus saith unto them, Have ye (or you) understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea (or yes), Lord.

**Mt 13:52.** This is the last verse in this series after they had entered into a house back in Mt 13:37.

Jesus speaks of a scribe that has received instruction regarding the kingdom of heaven.

A scribe was a person that carefully made copies of the Scriptures. He was suppose to be an expert in God's Word. They were immersed in God's Word. Yet Jesus seems to be addressing His disciples.

He is referring to them as the head of a household that brings forth from his treasure various things that were new, but also old. The treasure is the Word of God. The two go together.

There is no more valuable treasure than this—to save men's souls. As God's Word tells us, what profit is there, if a person gains the whole world, but loses their own soul and perishes?

He is addressing those that were with Him and followed Him. They were to be teachers. As Jesus was teaching His followers, so they were to teach others.

All that are saved are to learn God's Word and then teach others. They are to let their light so

shine before men. True followers of God's Word are to not hide themselves, but go forth as God reveals to them what to do and then opens the doors.

They are to teach the old things, but also new revelations as God opens their understanding (or treasures) both new (as well as) old.

The more one studies God's Word in humbleness and repentance, the more insight they should have. A person that has read the Bible one time does not have nearly the understanding of a person that has read it 50 times. A minister of 20 years can bring forth many new things he did not understand after only 5 years.

All that follow Christ are to have this spirit of being an example of God's Word and bringing forth God's Word.

It is written: 1 Pe 3:15-But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

**All believers** are to be an householder.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:52**, Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe (or teacher of the law) which is (or has been) instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder (or is like the owner of a house), which bringeth forth out of his treasure (or storeroom) (things) (or treasures) new and (as well as) old.

**Mt 13:53.** Once Jesus had finished with teaching the parables, He left the house-ref Mt 13:36. The house is not identified, but it may have been Simon Peter's. He would continue with other parables at another time.

**Mt 13:53.** And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed (or moved on from) thence (or from there).

**Mt 13:54.** And when he was come into his own country (or own home town), he taught them (or began teaching them) in their synagogue, insomuch (or so) that they were astonished (or amazed), and said, Whence hath (or where did) this man (get) this wisdom, and these mighty works (or miraculous powers)?

As it has been said in **Mt 13:53**, And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed (or moved on from) thence (or from there).

The ministry of Jesus began when He was about 30 years of age.

It lasted approximately 3 years.

Matthew 13:54-58 takes place approximately **26 months** after He began His ministry.

**Mt 13:54.** This verse appears to be a short time after Mt 13:53. Other things happened in between.

Many verses in the Gospels are not in an exact chronological order.

Jesus has now returned to the area where He had been brought up, which is Nazareth.

He had returned at an earlier date, when they tried to throw Him off a cliff-ref Lk 4:16-39. That was about 8 months into His ministry.

Now He returns once again, about 26 months into His ministry.

Nazareth, in the days of Jesus, was a small village. Some believe the population may have been between 200 to 500 people. Figures vary.

Today, it is a modern, prosperous city of about 62,000 to 76,000 people, with busy streets, some hills, and a lot of traffic. The population is mostly Israeli-Arabs.

Regarding sightseeing, there is an excellent "Nazareth Village" presentation that many tourists visit.

There is also the traditional church of the Annunciation nearby that some believe houses the place Jesus grew up in. The church has a beautiful echo effect, if you like to sing.

It is said to be the largest church in the Middle East.

Nearby is a Greek Orthodox Church that is said to house the town's water source.

As one tours Israel, it is not uncommon that there may be one or more different denominational churches built on certain sites nearby each other, where it is believed some biblical event took place.

The distance from Capernaum to Nazareth is estimated at 20 miles; however, to walk the trail was much longer.

Then Jesus arrived into His own country. When the Sabbath arrived, He went into the synagogue. This should have been the synagogue that He had attended much of His life. All there undoubtedly knew Him from His childhood. It appears He visited there once after He began His ministry.

The multitudes that often surrounded Jesus to hear Him and to be healed in many places He went seemed to be absent in His hometown.

It appears He was called to teach and read from the scroll of Isaiah, which was a normal thing-ref Lk 4:16. He read those concerning the coming of the Messiah.

Luke 4:18-22 reveals what He read. THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME BECAUSE HE HATH ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR, HE HATH SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKEN HEARTED, TO PREACH DELIVERANCE TO THE CAPTIVES AND RECOVERING OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET AT LIBERTY THEM THAT ARE BRUISED, TO PREACH THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD.

AND HE CLOSED THE BOOK (OR SCROLL)

AND GAVE IT AGAIN TO THE MINISTER, AND SAT DOWN. AND THE EYES OF ALL THEM THAT WERE IN THE SYNAGOGUE WERE FASTENED ON HIM. AND HE BEGAN TO SAY UNTO THEM, **THIS DAY IS THIS SCRIPTURE FULFILLED IN YOUR EARS.**

Jesus had just declared that He was the fulfillment of these verses, and He was the long awaited Messiah.

Those in attendance were offended at His teachings-ref Mt 13:57, but also astonished and amazed. They began to question where Jesus could have learned the things He taught.

They had also heard about some of the incredible miracles He had done. They did not understand how this carpenter's son could do such things. They knew nothing of the virgin birth at this time. He was someone that had grown up among them, and now He was saying He was the One that was prophesied to come. This to them was absolutely ridiculous, and even blasphemous and worthy of death.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:54**, And when he was come into his own country (or own home town), he taught them (or began teaching them) in their synagogue, insomuch (or so) that they were astonished (or amazed), and said, Whence hath (or where did) this man (get) this wisdom, and these mighty works (or miraculous powers)?

**Mt 13:55.** They said—is this not the carpenter's son, which was Joseph? The word used for carpenter can also mean a stone mason.

They also said—is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers **James, Joses, Simon,** and **Judas** (or Jude)? It appears He had four younger half brothers. They did not believe on Him, until the very end came. The mockers in the synagogue appear to be saying this in a

**Mt 13:55.** Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and (aren't) his brethren (or brothers), James, and Joses (or Joseph), and Simon, and Judas?

**Mt 13:56.** And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence (or where) then hath (or did) this man (get) all these things?

**Mt 13:57.** And they were offended in him (or they took offense at him). But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save (or except) in his own country (or home town), and in his own house (or in his own household).

sarcastic tone.

They knew nothing of the virgin birth of Mary. Neither did His brothers and sisters.

Satan is a master at making people believe lies are the truth, and the truth are lies. An excellent example of this is that many people do not believe the Bible is true, yet it is.

Two of his brothers, James and Judas (or Jude), later wrote epistles. They also were important figures in the early church.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:55**, Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and (aren't) his brethren (or brothers), James, and Joses (or Joseph), and Simon, and Judas?

**Mt 13:56.** Jesus also had half sisters. The unbelievers in the synagogue appeared to be thinking, if Jesus was really the Messiah, His own family (brothers and sisters) would have known about it, but the Scriptures indicate that only Mary and Joseph knew.

For the second time they were questioning from where could Jesus have learned all these things, and they wondered how He could do the miracles they had heard about.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:56**, And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence (or where) then hath (or did) this man (get) all these things?

**Mt 13:57.** The people were offended in Jesus and were also filled with wrath-ref Lk 4:28. They could not understand how this person that had been born and raised among them could, in any way, be the Messiah. They wanted to kill Him. They had wrong thoughts, which were from Satan.

How little people even begin to understand that

if Satan was bound, those thoughts would be gone. The condition of a person's heart can be seen from what a person says and does.

Jesus replied to their unbelief that only in His hometown and in His own house is a prophet without honor. Jesus used the word "prophet" in connection with Himself.

Jesus appeared to be much more open with those of His hometown than He was anywhere else that He preached.

He read to them the Scriptures about Himself. These Scriptures the people undoubtedly knew. He told them that He was the One that was to come and fulfill the Scriptures (which are found in Lk 4:18,19).

They did not believe what He said.

The Messiah would be the promised King of Israel. In their minds, it was ridiculous that this carpenter that had been born and raised in Nazareth could be that person. Yet the **wisdom** that came out of His mouth, and the **miracles** that He had done, and that they had heard about could not be denied.

They just could not understand, and they were very angry at Him.

Neither did His own brothers believe-ref Jn 7:5.

As a carpenter, He would have worked among the very people that heard His words. Now He claims to be the promised Messiah all of a sudden. The people could not accept this. Some wanted to kill Him for speaking what they believed was blasphemy.

This appears to be His second rejection at Nazareth.

All this must have been very difficult for Joseph

**Mt 13:58.** And he did not many mighty works (or miracles) there because of their unbelief (or lack of faith).

and Mary. It seems the people present must have thought their son was beside Himself and had illusions.

Ps 69:8 says: I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.

Yet despite all this, Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, (or growth, or development, or achievement) and in favor with God and man-ref Lk 2:51.

It was not until Jesus rose from the dead that His brothers believed on Him-ref Acts 1:14.

As it has been said in **Mt 13:57**, And they were offended in him (or they took offense at him). But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save (or except) in his own country (or home town), and in his own house (or in his own household).

**Mt 13:58.** Jesus performed very few miracles in Nazareth. It was because of their unbelief, or lack of faith.

Surely there were those that were sick in Nazareth, but because of their own unbelief, they never came to Jesus to be healed. It is possible that some may have died, but could have been healed.

The power of Jesus is not stopped or hindered by man's unbelief. The lack of mighty works appears to have been more of a response to it.

Mk 6:5-AND HE COULD DO THERE NO MIGHTY WORK, SAVE THAT HE LAID HIS HANDS UPON A FEW SICK FOLK, AND HEALED THEM. Even healing a few sick people in itself would prove the power of God was present.

As has been said, the population of Nazareth



may have been around 450 (or 200 to 500) people at that time.

Oftentimes, Jesus had related the person's trust and belief to the miracles He performed. Ref Mk 9:23-Jesus said unto him, IF THOU CANST BELIEVE, all things are possible to him that believeth.

Many in Nazareth would not believe or trust in Jesus. It appears that only a few sick people came to him to be healed.

Few talk about this, but a person's unbelief can come from a lack of being in God's Word. It can also come from wrong thoughts that are put into a person's mind by the devil. Satan understands the things that be of men. He understands how to deceive them and tempt them. The number of people that do not believe in the devil, or they greatly underestimate him is close to 100%. Part of Satan's deception is making people believe he does not exist, or making people underestimate how he deceives them.

Satan, also called the devil and many other names, has been given the power to deceive. It is written, SATAN WHICH DECEIVETH THE WHOLE WORLD-ref Rev 12:9.

ONE HUNDRED PERCENT of the human population is deceived, before they come to Jesus in humility and repentance.

If Satan was sealed and put into the pit right now, as it will be during the Millennium, every person's thoughts would be greatly changed. The world would love both Jesus and the Jews, as will be the case during the Millennium. During the Millennium, Satan is bound and sealed, so he cannot fill people's thoughts with any deception.

Why are the workings of Satan and deception

not taught much in most churches and Bible studies?

The Bible clearly teaches most perish for eternity. Yet why do most not believe this?

Why do some households not even own a Bible, and if they do, why is it collecting dust?

The answer is in the last word of this verse-Mt 13:58—their unbelief.

Billions are in hell right now that had opportunities to repent and inherit eternal life, but they just would not do it. For time with no end, they shall be tormented. How many of your neighbors will be among them? Will you also be in hell, and then the lake of fire but you are so biblically illiterate that you don't know it?

As it has been said in **Mt 13:58**, And he did not many mighty works (or miracles) there because of their unbelief (or lack of faith).

**End of Mt Chapter 13. 26 months into the ministry of Jesus.**

**Chronologically Mt 13:58 goes to Mk 6:1.**

**Mk 6:1 goes to Mk 6:6.**

**Mk 6:6 goes to Mt 9:34.**

**Mt 9:34 goes to Mt 9:35**

**Mk 9:35 goes to Mt 10:4.**

**Mt 10:4 goes to Mk 6:7.**

**Mk 6:7 goes to Lk 9:1.**

**Lk 9:1 goes to Lk 9:2.**

**Lk 9:2 goes to Mt 10:5.**

**Mt 10:5 goes to Mt 10:15**

**Mt 10:15 goes to Mk 6:8.**

**Mk 6:8 goes to Mk 6:11.**

**Mk 6:11 goes to Lk 9:3.**

**Lk 9:3 goes to Lk 9:5.**

**Lk 9:5 goes to Mt 10:16**

**Mt 10 16 goes to Mt 10:42.**

**Mt 10:42 goes to Mt 11:1.**

**Mt 11:1 goes to Mk 6:12**

**Mk 6:12 goes to Mk 6:13.**

**Mk 6:13 goes to Lk 9:6.**

**Lk 9:6 goes to Mt 14:1.**

If you have now read all the commentary for the previous chapter, consider returning to the beginning of the chapter and read just the verses again. Each verse should now have much more meaning to you.



[Click here for Mt. Chapter 14](#)

