

### **Week 43: The Parables of Jesus**

- The Sower and the Seed – Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23; Mark 4:3-20; Luke 8:5-15
- The Tares and the Wheat – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- The Mustard Seed – Matthew 13:31-32; mark 4:30-32; Luke 13:18-19
- The Leaven – Matthew 13:33; Luke 13:20-21
- The Treasure Hidden in the Field – Matthew 13:44



**Parable—6**

**The Sower and the Seed**

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23; Mark 4:3-20; Luke 8:5-15

- ✦ The Word of Christ alone gives birth to and sustains faith in Christ. The enemies of faith are the devil, persecution, and earthly cares and pleasures. This parable teaches us that it is a miracle that anyone comes to faith in Christ.
- ✦ *A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold (Luke 8:5-8).*
- ✦ *The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience (Luke 8:11-15).*

### Parable—7

### The Tares in the Wheat

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

- ✦ This parable teaches us that believers and unbelievers will coexist in the world until the Judgment. The identity of the sons of the kingdom and the sons of the wicked one is often hidden, and will not be revealed until the end of the age. Unbelievers will receive the condemnation of hell, and believers, made righteous through Christ, “*will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.*”
- ✦ *The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared... “Do you want us then to go and gather them up?” But he said, “No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest” (vss. 24-30).*
- ✦ *He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father (vss. 37-43).*

### Parable—8

### The Mustard Seed

Matthew 13:31-32; Mark 4:30-32; Luke 13:18-19

- ✦ Christ, planted in this world by the preaching of the Gospel, looks to be the most insignificant word in all the earth, yet He produces a mighty congregation of believers among whom the Holy Spirit dwells to give the shelter of His forgiveness and salvation to all who enter her.
- ✦ *The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches (Matthew 13:31-32).*

### Parable—9

### The Leaven

Matthew 13:33; Luke 13:20-21

- ✦ Christ is the leaven who leavens the whole lump.
- ✦ The preaching of the Gospel, the power of which is often imperceptible and unnoticed, is the means through which the Holy Spirit brings about the conversion of sinners to faith in Christ.
- ✦ *The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened (Matthew 13:33).*

**Parable—10**

**The Treasure Hidden in the Field**

Matthew 13:44

- ◆ This is a redemption parable. It teaches us that it was Jesus' joy to redeem the whole world through the price of His blood, selling all that He had, in order that at least a few might be His own.
- ◆ *The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

