

Because
When God Is in Charge
Matthew 13

8 Parables in Matthew 13:

Parables to the Crowds:

- Parable of the Sower
- Parable of the Weeds
- Parable of the Mustard Seed
- Parable of the Yeast

Parables to the Disciples

- Parable of the Hidden Treasure
- Parable of the Great Pearl
- Parable of the Dragnet
- Parable of the Householder

All of these parables have something to do with the “Kingdom of Heaven”:
(vss. 19, 24, 31, 33, 44, 45, 47, 52)

So... what is the Kingdom of Heaven or the Kingdom of God?

**God's Sovereign Reign
over the Universe**

**God's Saving Reign
over Individual Hearts**

Application – GOD is “in charge”!!!

INTERRUPTIONS:	PARABLES:	EXPLANATION OF PAIRINGS:
<p>All the “interruptions” have to do with either understanding or NOT understanding parables...</p>	The Sower - vss. 1-23	<p>There is a necessary mixing of the righteous and the unrighteous in the world... But in the end, there will be a final judgment and a great “dividing” ...</p> <p>The hidden but great POWER of God's Kingdom The hidden but great VALUE of God's Kingdom</p> <p>Jesus sows the seed of the Word of God... Jesus' followers display / proclaim the treasure / truth of the kingdom of God...</p>
	Interruption - vss. 10-17	
	The Weeds – vss. 24-30 & 36-43	
	The Mustard Seed – vss. 31-32	
	The Yeast – vs. 33	
	Interruption – vss. 34-35	
	Hidden Treasure – vs. 44	
	The Great Pearl – vs. 45	
	The Dragnet - vss. 47-50	
	Interruption – vs. 51	
	Householder - vs. 52	

Lessons from the Parables in Matthew 13

1. Parable of the Sower (vss. 3-23):

- Despite resistance from some, the message of God's Word will bring a harvest of souls!

2. Parable of the Weeds (vss. 24-30 & 36-43):

Parable of the Dragnet (vss. 47-50):

- Because God is in charge EVERYONE is accountable!
 - This great day of accountability / judgment is compared to a harvest. It is like a great clearing out and cleaning up.
 - The "fields" are emptied and the "wheat" and "weeds" are separated.
 - There is a holy soberness about this final and ultimate accountability before God.
- Because God is in charge the devil will be defeated and all evil will be judged.
 - Jesus talked about hell more than anybody else in the Bible...
 - He certainly talked about hell more than is comfortable!
- Because God is in charge followers of Jesus will reflect His glory forever! (vs. 43)
 - based on Daniel 12.3
 - This is a "reflective" glory...
 - It should begin to be a reality now.
 - It will be fully realized "in the kingdom of [our] Father".
- Because God is in charge His kingdom will be victorious despite various obstacles.
 - God doesn't remove all evil from this world. God's people and God's enemies coexist in families, communities, nations, and this world. This brings tension... but also good.
 - The message of these parables should allow us to live with confidence in the future!

3. The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast (vss. 31-33):

- Because God is in charge, "little things" matter!
 - God seems to enjoy taking the small and accomplishing the great!
- MUSTARD SEED - The beginnings of Christ's kingdom were unexpectedly small but grew to be amazingly large.
- YEAST – The workings of Christ kingdom is often hidden because it relates to the transformation of individual hearts!

4. The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl of Great Price (vss. 44-46):

- Having GOD be in charge of me is the most valuable possible treasure!
- The reward of entering the kingdom of God is worth every possible sacrifice!
- It will cost us something to follow Christ!
- But there is GREAT reward in following Christ!

5. The Parable of the "Master of a House" (vs. 52):

- a. Just like Jesus "sowed" the seed, the followers of Christ have the privilege and responsibility of "showing" the value of the kingdom!
- b. This relates to how we live. Our lives should display the great value of having God be in charge!
- c. This relates to what we say. We should regularly proclaim the fact that God is in charge and that all humanity is called to trust in Him and submit to Him in Christ!