

THE PARABLES—Section 2, Part 1

Matthew 13:1-23

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Go...realizing that some people will reject the message immediately; some will seem to accept it but will soon fall away; some will seem to accept while holding on to the old life, but will eventually disappear, choked out by things of the world; and some will truly believe and in humility will confess and repent of their sins.

GREEK WORDS

Parabolê—a placing beside, a comparison

Mystērion (moos-tay'ree-on)—a derivative of muo (to shut the mouth) a secret (through the idea of silence imposed by initiation into religious rites)

SONG TITLES

"My Hallelujah" words and music by Ben Smith, Brenton Brown, Chris Tomlin, Daniel Bashta, Jason Ingram, and Pat Barrett
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1. As a nation, Israel rejected Jesus. As a result, at that point in time Jesus did not establish (postponed) His physical, earthly kingdom. Instead, He pronounced judgment on the nation because of their unbelief and in turn extended that invitation to any who would believe in Him. This era is called the "church age."
2. 13:3 At this point in His ministry, Jesus only spoke to the crowds in parables and intentionally left them hanging (Matthew 13:34-35).
3. 13:9 The ability to understand these teachings depends largely on the condition of one's heart.
4. 13:9 An unexplained parable is nothing more than an impossible riddle; we can only guess at its meaning.
5. 13:11 Jesus gave two reasons for speaking only in parables:
 - to reveal hidden meaning to those who receive Him
 - to conceal meaning from those who do not
6. 13:11 In the Bible, a "mystery" refers to the revelation of something previously hidden. New Testament mysteries are revelations not revealed to saints in the Old Testament era.
7. 13:11 This Kingdom exists spiritually in the hearts of His people while the King is physically absent from the earth.
8. 13:11 The kingdom of heaven has two distinct aspects:
 - Universal kingdom—has no conditions; includes every created thing
 - Mediatorial kingdom—has conditions; requires intentional identity with Him
9. 13:12-13 The person who belongs to Jesus will receive even greater light as they grow in the Lord; the opposite is true for the unbeliever.
10. 13:12 Everyone on earth is either progressing or regressing in their relationship to God...none are static.
11. 13:14-15 Those not accepting His clear, simple teachings would not be able to understand the deeper teachings.

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