

## THE PARABLES—Section 2, Part 6

Matthew 13:47-51

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1. This parable is quite sobering; but at the same time, it reminds us of our great hope in Jesus Christ.
2. 13:47 Because the dragnet permits nothing to escape, everything—weeds, found objects, various forms of sea life, fish of every kind—is caught. This is a natural way of emphasizing the universality of God's judgment.
3. 13:49 The parable of the wheat/tares illustrated a coexistence of believers and unbelievers in the present day. This parable goes further and illustrates a separation that is coming as the Kingdom changes in form.
4. 13:49 This verse speaks of the first phase of judgment: the physical separation of the wicked from the righteous.
5. An accurate view of God, and therefore your final destiny, cannot be based on personal feelings. Your view of God must be based on His Word.
6. 13:49 God's coming judgment will include every single human, just as the dragnet encircles all the fish. Most do not perceive the advancing Kingdom of God and are blissfully unaware of the approaching end of the age.
7. 13:49-50 Jesus' focus here is specifically on the judgment of unbelievers, which is called the "great white throne" judgment (Revelation 20:11-12).
8. 13:49 Angels are the Lord's instruments (Matthew 24:31, 25:31-32; Revelation 14:19, 15:5-16:21).
9. 13:50 Jesus spoke of Hell more than anyone else. He said more about Hell than about love and about Heaven.
10. 13:50 Just as our finite minds cannot grasp all that is in store for a believer in Heaven, our finite minds cannot comprehend Hell.

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### SONG TITLES

"Breakthrough" words and music by Jake Espy, Jason Stocker, and Kory Miller  
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11. 13:50 Hell is a place of constant misery, where no light penetrates, and from which the damned never find relief (Matthew 25:30, 41).
12. 13:50 Just as believers will gain a perfect, resurrected body to enjoy the glory of Heaven forever, those who reject Jesus will have a resurrected body with which they endure Hell (Matthew 10:28; John 5:29; Acts 24:15; Revelation 20:11-15; Mark 9:44).
13. 13:50 Hell is experienced in variable degrees (Hebrews 10:28-29; Matthew 11:22-23).
14. 13:50 Hell is eternal. Jesus used the same word to describe the duration of Hell as the duration of Heaven (Matthew 25:46).
15. 13:50 Hell will be the total absence of hope.
16. What makes the gospel such good news is its power to save from the eternal destiny to which every person without Jesus is headed.

## GREEK WORDS

**Amphiblēstron** (am-fib'-lace-tron)—a (fishing) net (as thrown about the fish), thrown to impede motion, a casting net; one-man casting

**Sagēnē** (sä-gā'-nā)—large net hanging vertically, with floats on the top and sinkers on the bottom, seine, dragnet; requires a team to operate

## QUOTES

“When thou seest what an innumerable company of howling devils thou art amongst, thou shalt think this again—this is my portion forever. When thou hast been in hell so many thousand years as there are stars in the firmament or drops in the sea or sands on the seashore, yet thou hast to lie there forever. Oh, this one word—ever—how will it torment thy soul.” ~John Bunyan, 1877

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