

Matthew 13: 24-30 & 36-43; Understanding the Parable of the Wheat & The Tares;
Session # 5 – “The Kingdom of their Father” presented by Pastor Paul
Rendall, on August 14th, 2022, in the Adult Sunday School Class.

Matthew 13: 24-30 & 36-52 –

Mat 13: 24 “Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field;

Mat 13:25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.

Mat 13:26 But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared.

Mat 13:27 So the servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’

Mat 13:28 He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’

Mat 13:29 But he said, ‘No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.’

Mat 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.”

Mat 13: 36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field.”

Mat 13:37 He answered and said to them: “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.

Mat 13:38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one.

Mat 13:39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels.

Mat 13:40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age.

Mat 13:41 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,

Mat 13:42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Mat 13:43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

1. The Wheat Being Gathered into the Barn & the Righteous shining forth as the sun.

Matthew 13: 30 – “Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, ‘First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

The wheat that will be gathered is the sons of the kingdom, those who knew, received, and held fast the gospel and the word of God, and who believed that they were saved only by grace through faith in Christ, and not of themselves. It is these who are the wheat who will be gathered in to His barn; that is, into heaven, where they will shine forth in the kingdom of their Father.

Luke 16: 22 – “So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom.”

Matthew 13: 43 – “Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

This shining forth of the righteous will take place because of our glorification by Christ Himself. You remember the Transfiguration when Christ’s appearance became dazzling light. This description is a pre-figuring of what the eternal Kingdom of glory will be like, when we who have glorified will be given an essential glory in our being so that we will literally (physically and spiritually) shine, ourselves; that glory being derived from Christ Himself. That glory will shine forth from us.

Malachi 4: 2 – “But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall fed calves.”

In our conversion to Christ, the Sun of Righteousness shines His glorious light into our heart. We when rise from the dead on the final day, Christ shall arise upon us with eternal healing in His wings. We shall “skip about like calves from the stall”, it says in the NASB.

But it will be much more than that...

2. We ourselves shall shine with the glory of Christ, like the brightness of the firmament, and like the stars, forever.

Daniel 12: 2 & 3 – “And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt.” “Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever.

The language here in these verses in the context is speaking specifically the Jewish people, and the time that they shall be delivered as a nation from their unbelief and rejection of Christ. But it goes further even than that, to talk of the resurrection of the dead. It speaks here of the of “those who sleep in the dust of the earth”, and points to the time of the of the Last Judgment and the Eternal State. Many shall awake, or be raised to a resurrection of everlasting life if they have believed in Christ and pursued righteousness. Many others will be raised to a resurrection of shame and everlasting contempt because they would not believe in Christ, and they did not repent of their sins. Those persons who were wise, it says here, will shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turned many to righteousness, that is they preached Christ and won others to faith in Him ; they also taught those who were converted to do what Christ commanded. They taught them how grace leads to obedience to God’s word; doing what was right by His power; these persons shall shine like the brightness of the firmament in the glory that they will be rewarded with, in their persons, during that time, and on into eternity, forever.

1st Corinthians 15: 40-42 – “There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.” “There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.” “So also is the resurrection of the dead.” “The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.” “It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory.” “It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.”

In the resurrection we shall have celestial bodies, and the glory of our persons will reflect the glory of Christ and also of our position in the eternal kingdom of the Father. Star will differ from star in glory. But no one will be offended. And our God and our Christ shall be eternally worshiped and praised!

3. The Preaching of the Kingdom of Heaven will someday come to an end.

1st Corinthians 15: 23-25 – “But each one in his own order; Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who Christ’s at His coming.” “Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.” “For He must put all His enemies under His feet.” “The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.” “For ‘HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET’.” “But when He says ‘all things are put under Him,’ it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.” “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

So Christ was the first Man raised first from the dead out of all the people in His Mediatorial Kingdom. He was the firstfruits of what would be a great harvest of wheat; that is those whom He will glorify together with Himself on the Last Day. The Last Day is the Day when Christ returns. It will be the end of the age, when He returns, and He will raise all of the dead. At that time when He returns, He will put all His earthly enemies under His feet. These would be those nations who gathered together for war against the saints; the very thing which precipitated the crisis which caused the Lord to return.

And then, it says here, that He will deliver the Mediatorial Kingdom to God the Father. At that time He will put an end to all rule by all men over all earthly kingdoms, and the Kingdom of God will be all in all. All enemies, including the last enemy, death, will be put under His feet at that time. The All things under

His Feet is an expression of His having Dominion over all people and all nations. But God the Father Himself as the 1st Person of the Godhead is excepted from this dominion, as He is God, the ruler over all men.

And so the Mediatorial Kingdom will be delivered up to the Father by Christ, because Christ's mission and ministry are now completed. This Kingdom of Grace becomes, in Christ's delivery of it to the Father, an everlasting Kingdom of Glory, where God is all in all. "The Righteous shall shine forth in the Kingdom of their Father," it says. This is not to the exclusion of the Son and the Spirit that these things come to pass, for the Son and the Spirit are fully God also, but the Triune God must at this time, when eternity commences, be all in all.

Christ will always and forever continue as a Man; always and forever be the God/Man. But He will deliver up both Himself and His Church, the rule of that Mediatorial Kingdom in His offices of Prophet, Priest, and King, to the Father, so that the Triune God will rule together and over all things, forever together in this glorious way which will show forth the fact that all the purpose of God in the salvation of all of His elect people will have been accomplished.

Revelation 20: 7-12 – "Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea." "They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city." "And fire came down from God and devoured them." "The devil was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are." "And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever." "Then I saw a Great White Throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away." "And there was found no place for them." "And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened." "And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life." "And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books."

The thousand years here do not refer to the whole Church Age as some believe, or Satan would not be released after them. They refer rather to the time of the Millennium, the thousand years before Satan's little season. And the end of the 1,000 years, Satan will be released from his prison to go out to deceive the nations once again. This implies that the nations were not deceived during the 1,000 years of the Millennium. In his little season, Satan will attempt to resume his persecution of the saints and the beloved city. Fire comes down from God and devours those who oppose Christ's Coming which establishes the truth of what follows. It is then that Christ's Great White Throne will be set up, and He will judge the world in righteousness with all believers by His side. (1st Corinthians 6: 2)

Note by John Gill on 1st Corinthians 15: 28 (Christ's giving up the kingdom to God the Father) –

"It is best, therefore to understand it of the Son's giving up the account of his mediatorial kingdom and concerns to his Father; when it will appear that He has in the whole of His conduct and administration been subject to Him; that He has in all things acted in His name, done all by His power, and to His honor and glory; and now having accomplished all He undertook and was entrusted with, gives in His account, delivers up His charge, and resigns His office; all which will be plain proofs of his subjection: when I say he will resign or lay aside his office as Mediator, my meaning is not that he will cease to be God-man and Mediator; but that he will cease to administer that office as under God, in the manner he now does.

He will be the prophet of the church, but he will not teach by his Spirit, and word, and ordinances as now, but will himself be the immediate light of the saints, He will be a priest for ever, the virtue of His sacrifice and intercession will always remain, but He will not plead and intercede as He now does; He will also reign

for ever over and among his saints, but His kingdom will not be a vicarious one, or administered as it now is; nor be only in His hands as Mediator, but with God, Father, Son, and Spirit: that God may be all in all.”

“For by God is not meant the Father personally, but God essentially considered, Father, Son, and Spirit, who are the one true and living God; to whom all the saints will have immediate access, in whose presence they will be, and with whom they shall have uninterrupted fellowship, without the use of such mediums as they now enjoy; all the three divine Persons will have equal power and government in and over all the saints; they will sit upon one and the same throne; there will be no more acting by a delegated power, or a derived authority: God will be all things to all His saints, immediately without the use of means; He will be that to their bodies as meat and clothes are, without the use of them; and all light, glory, and happiness to their souls, without the use of ordinances, or any means.”