

The Life and Mission of Jesus Christ on Earth

Lesson Eighteen - Matt. 13:24-53; Mk. 4:26-34

Summary of Lesson

While sitting in the boat at the Sea of Galilee, Jesus continues to teach the great multitude many things in parables. In this lesson, we will study the parables of the seed growing of itself, of the tares, of the mustard seed and leaven and the parables of the treasure found in the field, the pearl of great price and the net.

Matthew 13:24-53

{24} Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; {25} "but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. {26} "But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. {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?' {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?' {29} "But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. {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.'" "{31} Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, {32} "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." {33} Another parable He

spoke to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened." {34} All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them, {35} that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world." {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." {37} He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. {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. {39} "The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. {40} "Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. {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, {42} "and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. {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! {44} “Again, 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. {45} “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, {46} “who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it. {47} “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind, {48} “which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. {49} “So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, {50} “and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” {51} Jesus said to them, “Have you understood all these things?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” {52} Then He said to them, “Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.” {53} Now it came to pass, when Jesus had fi-

nished these parables, that He departed from there.

Mark 4:26-34

{26} And He said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, {27} “and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. {28} “For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. {29} “But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.” {30} Then He said, “To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? {31} “It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; {32} “but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade.” {33} And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it. {34} But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON EIGHTEEN

1. Why did Jesus speak in parables?
2. What plant is large enough that the fowls of the air may lodge in the branches?
3. What lesson is taught in the parables of the treasure found in the field and the pearl of great price?
4. Who came and sowed tares in the man's good field?
5. Into what shall the wicked be cast?
6. What was hidden in the three measures of meal?
7. What was to be done with the tares?
8. Who shall be gathered out of the kingdom by the angels?
9. "And the kingdom of heaven is like unto _____, that was cast into the _____, and _____ of every kind."
10. In the parable of the tares, who is represented by the good seed?
11. "For the earth bringeth forth _____ of herself; first the _____, then the _____, after that the _____ in the _____."
12. What is the least of all seeds?
13. Who was he that sowed the good seed in the field into which later tares were sown?
14. Without what did Jesus not speak unto the multitudes?