

January 26, 2020

The New Testament! Matthew 13:47-50 "The Parable of the Net"!

Matthew 13:47-50 (ESV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. 48 When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Introduction

This last parable introduces a new life situation
Fishing and fishermen

Key phrases are repeated from the parable of the weeds...

...v40 and 49

"at the end of the age"

V42 and 50

"and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

So what is taught here that is not taught in the parable of weeds?

"separate the evil from the righteous"

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. 48 When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad.

It is like a seine or draw net

49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The separation between the wicked and the good will happen at judgement

No mistakes will be made

Not fire that annihilates, but fire which leaves in pain and causes weeping and gnashing of teeth

The final separation!

Judgement means to separate

It is a thorough and final/eternal separation

1. Thorough
2. Determined
The grounds for the separation was established on earth
3. Final/eternal/permanent
On that day the opportunity for belief and repentance will be over
4. The end for the wicked will be dreadful
Who but Jesus could speak such clear and harsh words

So what makes hell so terrible?

1. The suffering will be horrendous and forever
2. You will know you missed out on heaven
Luke 16:24-25 (ESV) And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in

like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.

Summary

The preaching of the Gospel is the letting down of a large net into the middle of the lake which is the world

In the visible church are converted, unconverted
The separation of the good and bad was surely to come but not until judgement

It is of grave importance to have this parable fixed in our minds

There is probably no point in Christianity more misunderstood than this one concerning the nature of the visible church (yet the parable of the weeds and net)

This misconception in the modern church is of great detriment to the soul

We must learn that every congregation of people is a mixed body

They contain both "good and bad fish"

Converted and unconverted, born again and dead
Children of God and children of the world

To tell all baptized people that they are born again, filled with Spirit, and are members of Christ has no scriptural warrant

This may please and flatter but is untrue and not profitable in dealing with souls

It lulls sinners to sleep, discounts the teaching of Jesus, and is not good for souls

When you hear this teaching, "remember the weeds and the net"

We must never be satisfied with church membership
We may be in the church but not in Christ
The waters of baptism go over many who are not
washed with the blood of Jesus
The bread and wine are taken by thousands who
have never taken Christ as their Savior and Lord and
are not followers of Jesus
Are we converted? Are we radically changed?
Have we repented? Have we turned? Do we love
Jesus and are we in His Word and following Him?
Are we His? Do we belong to Him?
The net will soon be pulled up on shore
Then the true character of our religion will be
exposed

**The angels will come out and separate the evil from
the righteous 50 and throw them into the fiery
furnace. In that place there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth."**

Richard Baxter says, *"These words need no
exposition or explanation just consideration and
belief"*

If you are without Christ you know how disappointing
you life is today
Yet there will be a day when this life will seem good
compared to the suffering in an eternal hell
Repent, believe in God and His Son, become a
follower of Jesus before it is too late
Give your life to Him, I mean totally to Him, here it
is Lord, take it, He will take you, do it today, don't
delay
Remember death, burial, resurrection of the dead,
reuniting of soul & body, judgement, heaven or hell