

# Glimpses of the Kingdom

## **The Feast of Booths**

Lev 23:33 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Lev 23:34 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: "The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD.

Lev 23:35 On the **first day** there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it.

Lev 23:36 For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. On the **eighth day** you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it.

Lev 23:37 "These are the feasts of the LORD which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, everything on its day—

Lev 23:38 besides the Sabbaths of the LORD, besides your gifts, besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings which you give to the LORD.

Lev 23:39 'Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast of the LORD for seven days; on the **first day** there shall be a sabbath-rest, and on the **eighth day** a sabbath-rest.

Lev 23:40 And you shall take for yourselves on the **first day** the fruit of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall

**rejoice** before the LORD your God for seven days.

Lev 23:41 You shall keep it as a feast to the LORD for seven days in the year. It shall be a **statute forever** in your generations. You shall celebrate it in the seventh month.

Lev 23:42 You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths,

Lev 23:43 **that** your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.' "



**From: Richard Dubler**

**Date: Tue, 27 Jun 2023 at 20:56**

**Subject: Feast**

**Hello Jim,**

**I was walking through the woods on my way to work this morning and as I looked at the bright vibrant green set off as the light that shone through its transparent leaves, it hit me just how beautiful it was and made me think that this was just a small glimpse of how beautiful the Kingdom**

**will be. And then it occurred to me that maybe we could use that as a possible theme for the Feast, "A glimpse of the Kingdom" ...**

**Rick**

... and now for a ... sermon full of Glimpses!

## **Jesus (future King of the Kingdom) Presented at the Temple (a first glimpse!)**

Luk 2:22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord

Luk 2:23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "EVERY MALE WHO OPENS THE WOMB SHALL BE CALLED HOLY TO THE LORD" ),

Luk 2:24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A PAIR OF TURTLEDOVES OR TWO YOUNG PIGEONS."

Luk 2:25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was **just & devout**, waiting for the **Consolation of Israel**, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

Luk 2:26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the **Lord's Christ**.

Luk 2:27 So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law,

Luk 2:28 he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

Luk 2:29 "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word;

Luk 2:30 For my eyes have seen **Your salvation**

Luk 2:31 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

Luk 2:32 A light to bring **revelation to the Gentiles**, And the **glory of Your people Israel**."

Luk 2:33 And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him.

Luk 2:34 Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is **destined for the fall and rising of many** in Israel, and for **a sign** which will be spoken against

Luk 2:35 (yes, **a sword** will pierce through your own soul also), that the **thoughts of many hearts** may be revealed."



Mat\_24:9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be **hated by all nations for My name's sake**."

A "Glimpse"... may be defined as ...

- **a momentary or partial view**

Luk 17:21<sup>NIV</sup> ...the kingdom of God is in your midst. (*because the KING was speaking!*)

- **to see or perceive (come to realize or understand) briefly or partially**

Luk 2:36 Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity;

Luk 2:37 and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but **served God** with fastings and prayers night and day.

Luk 2:38 And coming in that instant **she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem**.

Scripture offers us many "glimpses" of the Kingdom of God **because** our Creator realises our need for the vision or goal (or direction from God) to be "out there" ... before us!

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish...

yet ... a paradox?!? ... Not everyone sees the vision or knows the mystery!

Mar\_4:11 And He said to them, "To you it has been given to know the **mystery of the kingdom of God**; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables,

Jesus spoke as many as 43 parables... Of these, I have selected **10 "glimpses"** about the Gospel (Good news) of the Kingdom of God ... (to **reveal fundamental points** about the Kingdom!)

... and they might be divided in the following way:

- 4 agricultural examples
- 3 examples concerning money
- 1 situations involving light
- 1 fishing story
- 1 example using cooking as its basis



or...

Parables to the **multitude**...

- 1) The Parable of the Sower (Matt. 13:3-9)
- 2) The Wheat and the Tares (Matt. 13:24-30)
- 3) The Lamp Under the Bushel (Mark 4:21-25)
- 4) The Grain of Mustard Seed (Matt. 13:31-32)
- 5) The Kingdom Like Leaven (Matt. 13:33)
- 6) The Seed Cast Into the Ground (Mark 4:26-29)



Parables to the **disciples only** ...

- 7) The Hidden Treasure (Matt. 13:44)
- 8) The Merchant Seeking Pearls (Matt. 13:45, 46)
- 9) The Net Cast Into the Sea (Matt. 13:47-50)
- 10) The Householder and His Treasure (Matt. 13:52)



## The Parable of the Sower

Mat 13:1 On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea.

Mat 13:2 And **great multitudes** were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.

Mat 13:3 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow.

Mat 13:4 & as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; & the birds came and devoured them.

Mat 13:5 Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

Mat 13:6 But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

Mat 13:7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.

Mat 13:8 But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Mat 13:9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"



## The Parable of the Sower Explained

Mat 13:18 "Therefore hear the parable of the sower:

Mat 13:19 When anyone hears the **word of the kingdom**, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

Mat 13:20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

Mat 13:21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

Mat 13:22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

Mat 13:23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit & produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

Lessons from **this** glimpse ...

- There is an adversary - Satan the wicked one - Who suppresses & attacks - ***Beware!***
- If Jesus needed to explain this to His disciples ...the "multitude" likely understood little - the purpose of parables (sometimes) is to obscure - eg This is not the only chance for Salvation & some few respond to the call now & understand God's Kingdom now
- Few will understand ... but some do understand God's coming Kingdom

## The Parable of the Weeds (Tares)

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 & sowed tares among the wheat & 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." ' "

## The Parable of the Weeds Explained

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 & 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 & will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing & 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!

Lessons from ***this*** glimpse ...

- There is an adversary - Satan the wicked one - Who “impersonates”
- Jesus does not remove the tares in this age - they will “offend” & “practice lawlessness”
- Righteous judgement will be part of the Kingdom - eventually removing “all things that offend” (but we know initially some nations will not keep the Feast ... Zech\_14:18)

### **The Mustard Seed**

Mat 13:31 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,  
Mat 13:32 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."

Lessons from ***this*** glimpse ...

- God can do ANYTHING ... but ... Christ's Kingdom will start small !?!
- AND ... the Kingdom will grow  
Isa\_2:3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

### **The Leaven**

Mat 13:33 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."



Lessons from ***this*** glimpse ...

- Clearly, the Kingdom starts small & spreads out everywhere
- It might also be referencing the preparatory work of Jesus' first ministry & the work of His Church -- we sometimes feel invisible and perhaps having an imperceptible influence on the world but ... “like leaven”, Christ's work HAS impact - There will be a final result - the reign of Christ everywhere!

### **The Parable of the Hidden Treasure (to the disciples)**

Mat 13:44 "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.

Lessons from ***this*** glimpse ...

- The value of the King & His Kingdom is a treasure that brings **more joy** than ANYTHING this world can offer.  
1Co\_2:9 But as it is written: "EYE HAS NOT SEEN, NOR EAR HEARD, NOR HAVE ENTERED INTO THE HEART OF MAN THE THINGS WHICH GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

### The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value *(to the disciples)*

Mat 13:45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls,

Mat 13:46 who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went & sold all that he had & bought it.

Lessons from this glimpse ...

- The value of the King & His Kingdom is of **surpassing** value & worthy of ALL sacrifice
- Before baptism we are counselled to "count the cost"  
Luk 14:33 So likewise, whoever of you does not **forsake all that he has** cannot be My disciple.

### The Parable of the Net *(to the disciples)*

Mat 13:47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind,

Mat 13:48 which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away.

Mat 13:49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just,

Mat 13:50 and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."



Lessons from this glimpse ...

- The Kingdom will be universally offered ... but the unrighteous (ultimately) will not enter (It becomes purified)
- Sometimes people choose (or lose) salvation by their words, or their action, or their neglect - no one "**fools**" the Righteous Judge. Feelings of anxiety, dismay, worry & even regret will emerge from those who did not ... "Make their calling & election sure" (2 Pet 1:10)

### New and Old Treasures *(to the disciples)*

Mat 13:51 Jesus said to them, "Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."

Mat 13:52 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."

Lessons from this glimpse ...

- The one who understands the secrets of the Kingdom will discern & bring out both old & new truths.
- God's blessings on us come with responsibility to prepare for the Kingdom of God. True disciples are part of a Church commissioned to "make disciples of all nations" and to teach "them to observe all that [Christ has] commanded" (Matthew 28:19-20).
- For those attending Feasts & Sabbath services for 10 or 20 or 30 or 40 or 50 years ??  
You have a LOT of treasure to bring out and share!  
-- I remember favourite Feast sermons talking about "That's just the way I like it!" & evangelising with simple hooks like ...  
"Oh, I've heard of your church ... it's a **9 Commandment** church!"

Rick gave us a glimpse of the Kingdom back on Page 1 ... & Jesus gave us 10 Parables featuring **10 glimpses** of the Kingdom ... Let's **be here** each day ... to enhance **our vision** of God's Kingdom!