

PARABLE OF THE DRAGNET AND THE SCRIBE UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM SERIES

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TEXT: Matthew 13:47-50 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering *fish* of every kind; and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good *fish* into containers, but the bad they threw away. “So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 13:51-52 “Have you understood all these things?” They said to Him, “Yes.” And Jesus said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things new and old.”

I. THE PARBLE OF THE DRAGNET

A. JESUS AFFIRMS THAT THE WICKED WILL GO TO HELL

- 1. Matthew 13:47-50** “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering *fish* of every kind; and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good *fish* into containers, but the bad they threw away. “So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
2. How many of you know that hell is not a popular subject? Have you noticed that there are no conferences on hell lately? “You better register fast because this conference is going to be sold out!”
3. Again, Jesus uses parables, a story to teach an eternal truth about hell.
4. Jesus gave the truth about hell in the second parable, separating the wheat from the tares or weeds. Jesus talked more about hell than heaven.
5. According to Craig Keener, there are 24 different species that are caught in the Sea of Galilee, many that were not Kosher. So Peter and the fishermen on the sea would keep the edible fish and throw away the bad fish. Jesus uses this parable to teach that on that day of judgment, God will separate the



righteous from the wicked and the wicked will be sent to eternal damnation in a place called “hell.”

6. The context of potentially being separated from God makes the Kingdom valuable, like the treasure or the Pearl of Great Price.
7. Unfortunately, there are many who don't believe in hell. A talk show host said, “I believe at the end of the day, Jesus will tell everyone who dies, ‘You can all come into heaven.’”
8. Since there are believers confused about this, I want to talk a little about the doctrine of eternal Judgment.

II. THEOLOGY OF ETERNAL JUDGEMENT- Hebrews 6:1-2
Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

A. THREE DEATHS

1. Physical Death- It is appointed for a man to die once and then comes the judgment
2. Spiritual Death- we are dead in our sins and trespasses
3. Eternal Death- these go into everlasting punishment (Matthew 25:46)

B. INTERMEDIATE STATE AFTER PHYSICAL DEATH

1. OF THE RIGHTEOUS - PARADISE

a. **Luke 23:43 “Today you will be with Me in Paradise.”**

2. OF THE WICKED - *Sheol* in Old Testament, *Hades* in the New Testament

a. **Luke 16:22-26 “Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham’s bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. “In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and *saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom. “And he cried out and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.’ “But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. ‘And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and *that* none may cross over from there to us.’**



C. THE FINAL JUDGMENTS

1. Judgment of Believers-Judgment Seat of Christ- 2 Corinthians 5:10

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

2. The Judgment of the Wicked-The Great White Throne of Judgment

a. Revelation 20:11-15 "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose ¹presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the ¹books, according to their deeds. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

b. Matthew 13:49-50 “So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous, ⁵⁰ and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

D. QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD SENDING PEOPLE TO HELL - Why would a good God send anyone to hell?

- 1. Answer: God is good, but he is also a just God. If you had a judge in the criminal court, and a man who had murdered and raped and eight-year-old girl, and he said, “Well, I am a good judge. I am a judge of mercy and grace. I am going to let you go for free.” You wouldn't call that judge good. You would think that Judge as evil or mad.**
- 2. C. S. Lewis, “There is no doctrine which I would more willingly remove from Christianity than the doctrine of hell, if it lay in my power. But, it has the full support of Scripture and, especially, of our Lord's own words; it has always been held by the Christian Church, and it has the support of reason.”**
- 3. If you don't believe in hell it is because you don't really understand the devastation of sin.**
- 4. Billy Graham says, “The most devastating fact in the universe is sin. The cause of all troubles, the root of all sorrow, the dread of every man**



lies in this one small word sin. All mental disorders, all sicknesses, all destruction, all wars find their root in sin. Sin is madness in the brain, poison in the heart. It is a tornado on the loose, a volcano gone wild. It is a deadly cancer eating its way into the souls of men. It is a raging torrent that sweeps everything before it.”

5. And God said from the beginning, “If you eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you will surely die.” Ezekiel says, “The soul that sins must die.” Jesus makes it clear that the punishment for sins is not just a physical death, but eternal death in a place called hell that was prepared for the devil. God being holy and just cannot lie and take back His word. Thus, the answer is a substitution. The good news is that Jesus died for our sins and rose again and if we repent of our sins and believe in Him, we will have eternal life.
6. That is why we must share the whole counsel of God with our friends, loved ones, and the lost. That is why there is such an urgency for us to obey the Great Commission. When you have a revelation of hell, you will be more urgent in your desires to share the gospel with your loved ones.
7. This is a big deal to Jesus because He would give His life for the world, that those who would repent and believe would not go to hell but have eternal life.
8. When my Father in law, Dr. Roxas, almost died of a heart attack.

III. THE PARABLE OF THE SCRIBE

A. THREE LEVELS OF LEADERSHIP- Matthew 13:51-52 “Have you understood all these things?” They said to Him, “Yes.”⁵² And Jesus said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things new and old.”

1. **THE SCRIBE-** Therefore every scribe. Scribes are those who know the Word of God and would meticulously copy the Word of God. A scribe would be a student of the Word.
2. **THE DISCIPLE-** Who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven. Is someone who follows Jesus. Apprentice. He would do what Jesus would do. He is a doer of the word, and not just a student of the Word.
3. **THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD-** “is like a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things new and old.”

B. THREE WAYS TO EMBRACE THE OLD AND THE NEW

1. **EMBRACE BOTH THE OLD TESTAMENT AND THE NEW TESTAMENT-** Receiving truths from the Old Covenant, but also



embracing truths from the New Covenant. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

2. **EMBRACE “OLD WINESKINS” AS WELL AS THE NEW WINESKINS-** Jesus said, “you cannot put new wine into old wineskins.” But that doesn’t mean that you don’t appreciate the old. We must love the whole church. There is something good out of all churches including the Catholic and Orthodox churches e.g. Value for life and family. Prop 8.
3. **EMBRACE THE LESSON LEARNED FROM CHURCH HISTORY: WE MUST GO BACKWARD BEFORE WE GO FORWARD-** Every major revival restored truth that should be embraced today. Justification by grace through faith, sanctification, Baptism in the Holy Spirit, apostles and prophets. Revival history. We have to go backward in order to go forward.

CONCLUSION: Repent of indifference to sin and hell. Repent of any negative attitudes toward traditional churches. Repent and believe in the Gospel.

