

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

RLJ-1934

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PART 36: UNBELIEF VS FAITH

SALVATION PARABLES

Jesus provided two more parables:

1. The kingdom of heaven is likened to a man finding treasure in a field that does not belong to him. Realizing its value, he does not tell anyone, but sells what he has to purchase the field and retrieve the treasure. **Matthew 13:44**
2. A merchant sought a great pearl, and when he found it, he sold all he had to buy it at a great price. **verses 45-46**

Salvation is at the heart of these two parables and the value it has for the man with discernment. Everyone in hell would certainly understand what admission to the Kingdom of Heaven is worth!

THE END TIMES

Jesus wanted to make sure that people understood two things:

1. There is life after death.
2. Heaven and hell are the only destinations after death.

Jesus spoke about fishing using a net. Since fishing was a huge industry around the Sea of Galilee, people had no problem grasping the concept of a full net being brought to shore full of good fish and those not fit to eat. The fishermen will only keep the good fish. The bad ones will be thrown away.

When the time comes for the final judgment, holy angels will separate the wicked and cast them into the Lake of Fire. **verses 47-50**

Jesus had already introduced the concept of being born again. **John 3:1-8**

Jesus built upon the preaching of John the Baptist when He also told people to repent. **Matthew 3:11-12**

The God-man had introduced faith in Him as the Messiah. **John 5:24; 6:47-48**

The Jews who repented and trusted Jesus for their salvation were saved (born again). **John 1:11-13**

HAD THE APOSTLES UNDERSTOOD THE TEACHING OF JESUS?

Jesus wanted to make sure the disciples understood what He was teaching. **Matthew 13:51**

Jesus compared the disciples to scribes with the ability to read and write who were to instruct the Israelites from the Old Testament. The disciples had been instructed about



the Kingdom of God, and just like an owner of a house can bring out good things, so would they.

It is impossible to understand the doctrine of the New Testament without the Old Testament and vice versa. The Mosaic Law brings the knowledge of sin, and without the law, there can be no conviction because it is the teacher that points us to the Messiah. This is where the Gospel begins. The redemptive work offered by Jesus brings us freedom from sin. **verse 52**

Jesus came to fulfill the Mosaic Law (also known as the five books of Moses or Torah) and the prophets. **Matthew 5:17-19**

Anytime the word “law” appears in the New Testament, it always refers to the Mosaic Law. The law was divided into three parts:

1. Moral law
2. Practical law
3. Sacrificial law

The **moral law** did not offer any salvation from sin since it only dealt with moral issues such as the Ten Commandments.

The **practical law** likewise did not offer any salvation from sin; it was purely physical and directed practical applications such as food and hygiene.

Only the **sacrificial law** offered forgiveness for sin. Jesus was the Lamb of God sent by God the Father to pay for the sins of humanity.

Christians often misinterpret Jesus’ fulfillment of the Mosaic Law and the Messianic prophecies of the Old Testament to mean that “the law” is no longer applicable. This couldn’t be further from the truth since Jesus only fulfilled the sacrificial part of the law.

Consider the following train of thought. If Jesus fulfilled the whole law, why are you still obeying the Ten Commandments? According to this faulty doctrine, they don’t apply anymore, and this means you can steal, kill, and lie to your heart’s content. But no one advocates such a policy because it is scripturally indefensible.

The apostle Paul said the purpose of “the law” was to serve as a teacher to reveal our need for a Savior and bring us to Christ. **Galatians 3:19-26**

Paul seemingly contradicts himself in the letter to the Romans. **Romans 3:31**

Yet there is no contradiction when you understand the division of the Mosaic law and that Paul was only referring to the **sacrificial** part of the law in his letter to the Galatians and affirming the **moral** and **practical** parts of the law in the letter to the Romans.

RETURNING TO THE CITY OF NAZARETH

The teaching session at the shore of Galilee came to an end and Jesus returned to his hometown of Nazareth. On the Sabbath day, He went to the synagogue which He had attended as a young man. The local people were not impressed with the thousands of miracles performed and questioned where Jesus received His wisdom and power to do miracles. **Matthew 13:54**

They could not get past the fact that the God-man had a mother and many brothers and sisters. **verses 55-56**

The people of Nazareth were offended by Jesus. The definition of the word “offended” is a perceived insult, indignation and irritation. The town’s people could not accept the fact that the man who had grown up in Nazareth was the Messiah. If He truly was the Christ, why had they not detected this during the 25 years He lived in their town? They were jealous of His power, fame, and success and angrily refused to honor Him. **verse 57**

The sick, blind, lame and demon possessed of Nazareth paid for the sins of their neighbors since the corporate unbelief hindered Jesus’ ability to perform miracles. **verse 58**

SUMMARY

The existence you choose to live out will determine where you spend eternity. The maximum time allocated to each person is 120 years, so the caution would be to use your time wisely. **Genesis 6:3**

Everyone dies; it’s just a matter of when it will take place. Make sure you have eternal life before you leave this earth. This single decision is more important than education, job, marriage, children, riches, etc. Jesus made it clear what your priorities should be. **Matthew 16:24-26**

Wrong priorities will send a person to hell. **Luke 12:16-21**

Do you recognize Jesus as the Son of God? Is He your Messiah? Do you realize that He is the King of Kings? Are you worshiping him as your Lord and Master? **Matthew 16:13-19**

Remember, it’s not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?