

# “The KINGDOM OF HEAVEN is Like . . .”

Matthew 13:1ff

*The Gospel of Matthew*

**Theme:** Despite the rejection by some, Jesus will win and God’s program will come to pass.

## Introduction:

- Matthew is addressing a critical question, “**If the Messiah is rejected by His own nation, Israel, what will happen to the Kingdom He has been offering?**”
- In the PARABLES of MATTHEW 13, Jesus explains **the Kingdom program during the period between His 1<sup>st</sup> Coming [Incarnation] and 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming.**
- Matt 13 is hinge in the literary structure of the book. It is a turning point in ministry of Jesus. In Matt 13 Jesus begins talking about the mystery form of the kingdom by telling parables.
- The intent of the Parable is to simultaneously **reveal** His message to His disciples and **conceal** it from unbelievers (Matt. 13:10-17).

## Outline:

1. **A major truth of Matthew 13** (as depicted in the parable of the soils): **Some people will reject the kingdom of heaven, others will receive it** (13:3-9, 18-23).
2. Now, for those of you who receive the Kingdom of heaven and are “caught between two worlds.”
3. Here are three things to keep in mind.
  - Parables of the Weeds in the Wheat and the Dragnet (13:24-30; 36-43, 47-50): **You have to co-exist with unbelievers. But in the end, Jesus will glorify the righteous and judge the unrighteous (v. 43).**
  - Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast (13:31-32, 33): **While you’re co-existing, keep in mind that Jesus is powerful. His Kingdom will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea** (Isa. 11:9).
  - Parables of the Treasure and the Pearl (13:44, 45-46): While you’re co-existing, keep in mind that **you have an incredible treasure in your possession. Do what you must to keep it secure.**

## What’s Next?

1<sup>ST</sup> – Not everyone will respond correctly to who Jesus is and what He has done.

2<sup>nd</sup> – God will have the final say for those who accept Him and for those who reject Him.

3<sup>rd</sup> – God’s program | design is going to come to pass. No one can stop God from doing what He does.

4<sup>th</sup> – Learn to cherish | value the GOSPEL. What we have is truly priceless.

