

**The New Testament Church**  
**Kingdom Rising #4 – *Disciplined in the Old and New***  
**August 20, 2023**

I With all that is going on... *we will be examining the kingdom parables of Jesus in Matthew 13*

- A. If politics are the consequences and not causes, *where should be our priorities?*
  - 1. Proverbs 4:18 – **What God has saved us to is greater than what He has saved us from!**
  - 2. Matthew 16:18 – **God is preparing His Ekklesia for victory over the gates of hell!**
  - 3. Hebrews 12:26-29 – **God is shaking and exposing evil as His Kingdom rises!**
- B. Re-claim the vital importance of the heart, mind and simple truths of the Gospel
  - 1. We must dethrone a love of wealth, pleasure, power and evil in our hearts!
  - 2. We need to rehearse key Biblical thought patterns that can direct our minds...
    - a. Character – work is a godly enterprise – *when entitlement abounds, work shines forth*
    - b. Covenant – We find agreement in discussion – *opening avenues to share the gospel*
- C. Learn to share the Gospel through your own parable – your story – testimony (Mt. 13:10-17)
  - 1. So the truth can draw them to Christ by relating to your story – *seek the Kingdom*
  - 2. It is the condition of the heart – a seeking – that we all need to discern (Isaiah 6:8-13)

II Matthew 13:51-52 – Parable of the Householder

- A. Last week we shared that part of the Kingdom rising in the earth is sharing the gospel with others
  - 1. This followed a resurgence of the heart and a need to renew the mind... (heart and soul)
  - 2. One comment made was that in fishing – *if you catch them, you clean them*
  - 3. Every individual who comes to Christ does so with baggage, bondage and in need of healing
  - 4. Inherent in the gospel is the seed of growth and the need for discipline - discipleship
  - 5. *Every believer needs to be in relationship with three to five others for accountability*
- B. This is a parable about the **home** with application to a **church** – a householder
  - 1. The scene is that of one entertaining visitors – building hospitality – seed of discipleship
    - a. Scribe – keeper of records – organization – management – intentional hospitality
    - b. Scholar – entertaining and discussing various ideas
  - 2. We learn to bring out of our **treasure** (Christ's work in our lives through His Word)...
    - a. Things “new” – a fresh flexibility – spontaneous, present, dynamic, filled with zeal
    - b. Things “old” – changeless – truth that remains the same for all ages, cultures, time periods
    - c. Wisdom is blending, balancing and joining things “old and new” in a Biblical way
- C. Examples of Treasures new and old - vessels, artifacts, books, furniture (ideas and truth)
  - 1. A Kingdom focus requires us to focus on “both and” philosophy in a tension of “old and new”
  - 2. Examples of **“Things new and old”**
    - a. **GOD / HIS WORD** – Our Father – present; and Ancient of Days!
    - b. **Christ** the living Word as well as the Logos – same *yesterday, today, and forever*
    - c. **New Testament** rests on the **Old Testament** – new in old contained, old by new explained
    - d. **Grace** brings life; **sin** (exposed by law) brings death – law and grace together!
    - e. **OUR TESTIMONY** – our growth now (new); and our conversion (past work of grace)
    - f. **Living in holiness (insulation); holiness standards** – we need both at the same time
    - g. **Heroes of today and in history** – we need both past and present current heroes
    - h. **In worship, we need “new songs” as well as classic hymns** – but both Biblical
    - i. **FELLOWSHIP** – children internalizing guidance, as well as honoring parents position
    - j. **Prodigals returning** balanced with **Faithful believers** receiving them with grace
    - k. **Youth zeal** balanced with older adults
      - 1. **Water baptism** (who we need to become) balanced with conversion (who we are in Christ)
- D. Following this parable Jesus applied its truth vividly (balancing changelessness and change) (returned to home town of Nazareth, spoke in Synagogue, read the old, this day fulfilled!)