

January 19th, 2020  
Pinecrest Baptist Church  
a.m.

Sermon Series: Standing on Kingdom Ground  
Sermon #2 Title: The Father's Field  
Sermon #2 Text: (Matthew 13:1-9; 19)

We are studying the Kingdom of God. It is the dividing line between those who have been redeemed by Christ, and those live in separation from Christ.

- As we said, Jesus has told us that it is to be the Preeminent Interest, and Sole Focus of our daily lives.
- Matthew 6:33 – “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
- As we stated last week, the Kingdom of heaven, is every heart that is actually subject to the Rule of God in their heart...
  - It is every person that has willfully given themselves to be ruled by the Lord Jesus.
    - Not ruled in the sense of following legalistic rules...
    - Ruled in the sense that now...
      - ~You're willing to desire, what He wants you to desire...
      - ~You're willing to be changed in what He wants you to be changed to...
      - ~You're willing for His will to become your will... in all things that control your daily life...
        - in your time, talent, and treasure...

As we stated last week, Our Lord explains to us that “The Kingdom of God is within you.”

- He will rule the hearts first...
- Then He will rule the land...

Chapter 13 is an overview of this collection of men in whose heart the Lord is reigning.

\*Note – In History – this “Kingdom” covers the time period from the Time of Christ, until the Time of Christ.

This chapter is a series of parables that our Lord gave us to learn about this kingdom.

- We learn about it as One single Unit
- We also learn about it, as an ongoing work.
- We also learn about it as an eventual end.
- It is an overview of this kingdom in six different aspects...
  - 1.) The Kingdom's Progress - As one Kingdom over Time – From the time of Christ to the Time of Christ.
    - a.) It's Initial beginning
    - b.) It's ongoing battles
    - c.) It's eventual conclusion
  - 2.) The Kingdom's Process – in every stage
    - a.) Proclamation of the Word
    - b.) People's reaction to the Word
  - 3.) The Kingdom's Problems – in every place
  - 4.) The Kingdom's People –
  - 5.) The Kingdom's Prince. –
  - 6.) The Kingdom's Pinnacle

It is a full tilt explanation of how the Work of God moves through History, works in Humanity, and concludes with Eternity.

- And it is all told in Parables, for those with ears to hear.

As we begin to look today at Parable #1, our Lord starts at the start...He begins at the beginning, explaining How the Rule of God spreads into, and throughout the world of men!

- Some of your Bibles call it the “Parable of the Soils”
- Some of your Bibles call it the “Parable of the Soils and the Sower”
- But just note, Jesus Himself called it “The Parable of the Sower” in verse 18. – We’ll call it what He called it.
- At any rate, it is the initiation of the how the progress of the Kingdom of God works.

I. The People Jesus Begins With – “The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. And great multitudes were gathered together unto Him, so that He went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore, and He spake many things unto them in parables...” – vs 1-3

\*Note – These two and a half verses are not insignificant, at least to me. – Because they demonstrate the nature of Christ’s purpose and work...

- Here again is an example of Word that is important to the gospel... - Whosoever...

#### A. *Whosoever* – “great multitudes”

\*Note – What do we know about these “great multitudes?”

- 1.) This takes place in the town of Capernaum – the fishing village where Jesus made His earthly home. – Population around 1500

- It was also a primary stop on a major trade route from the North of Israel down towards Egypt.

\*Note – That being said, don’t overlook who is “represented” by these multitudes... We have preached this so much, we no longer think about what it means to be a “Whosoever.”

- a.) Common Fishermen
- b.) Travelling Businessmen
- c.) Military men – we know there was a Roman assignment there.
- d.) Jews, Non-Jews, Blue Collar, White Collar,
- e.) People who believed the Bible and who did not.
- f.) Wealthy, Poor, Highly Educated down to Plain common sense. – there were old, young, sick, healthy
- g.) People with a Criminal history, people with an silver spoon pedigree...
- h.) There were people there who had heard Jesus many times, been healed by Jesus, lived and walked among Him daily...
- k.) There were people there who had never heard Him before.

\*Note – In short, this multitude is a microcosm of humanity. – This crowd is a thumbnail sketch of John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world...”

- This is always where Jesus begins... with the “Whosoever’s”

- This is why Peter wrote in 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:9 – “God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

- It is a permanent picture, as Dr. Rogers used to say – “No one is so good they need not be saved, and no one is so bad they cannot be saved.”

\*Note – Now listen! – That message is not only to be an encouragement to the lost.... It is a Reminder to the Saved!

- We aren't just telling this so the lost will get saved...

- But so the saved will open their eyes to who is lost!

\*Note – Let me ask you a personal question that cannot be avoided... and the answer says a lot about you...

- How often do you think about the actual eventual destiny of the people you see every day?

- How often do you think about the actual eventual destiny of the people, you already have in the subconscious categories of your life?

- We need not to emphasize that Jesus begins with WHOSOEVER, just so the lost can know they're not too bad to be saved... But so the saved can know, NO ONE fades off into forgotten-ness, or is somehow not going to face the judgment, and keep it before their eyes.

- Whosoever is who Jesus begins with, and it is to be who Jesus' people begin with as well!

Note – There is one more thing about these whosoever's... They are the “Whosoever's that Will.”

### **B. Whosoever Will** – “gathered together unto Him”

1.) We note that Jesus did no miracles on this occasion. This crowd just gathered to Him, with promise or program... There was no clear expectation as to whether or not Jesus would

do something, or say something...but they were willing to leave all things up to Him.

\*Note – This is an occasion in which these people went to Him for whatever He might want to say or do, be it little or much.

- Now get the picture...

- They didn't know what Jesus would do – if anything

- They didn't know what Jesus would talk about – if anything

- But the most very basic act that any human being takes in the right direction – is to be willing to hear whatever it is, Jesus Christ has to say.

- Now here is where men and women come into first real contact with the reality of Jesus Christ, His Word, and His Work....

- When the “Whosoever's that will” give audience to the message of Jesus.

(Note – Now as you are going to see, and already know there are those who give audience to Jesus, and move away from Him. There are those who give audience to Jesus, and move closer to Him. Of Course there are those who will never give audience to Jesus in the first place, but no one will do business with Jesus of any kind, without giving audience to His message.)

- This multitude of whosoever's that would be the people Jesus begins work with.

II. The Proclamation Jesus Starts With – “Behold, a sower went forth to sow...”

\*Note – The first message that Jesus starts with, is how His kingdom spreads throughout the world. His proclamation is how His kingdom Conquers...

**A. The Process to See** – “Behold a sower went forth to sow” – Mark adds the word, “Hearken, Behold.”

1.) Matthew says “look”

2.) Mark says “Listen, and Look”

\*Note – Some theologians speculate that Jesus may have actually seen someone sowing their field up on a hillside visible from where they were... (Some language doctors tell us the way the text is written, it indicates that... some do not.)

3.) The Kingdom is spread like a sower sowing seed – most likely wheat.

\*Note – Now note the picture, the picture is of the “indiscriminate sower.” This sower is more concerned with getting out the seed, than discerning which ground to sow on...

- He’s just casting seed, casting seed. From the parable he casts it on every kind of ground there is.

\*Note – Long before we even get to an explanation – we learn one thing straight up... - The kingdom is indiscriminate in who it offers to... - this underscores the “whosoever.”

4.) We know the “seed” is the Word of the kingdom. – Jesus states it later.

\*Note – What does that tell you? – It tells you that the Kingdom spreads through the WORD of the Lord.

- there is no substitute, there is no alternative...

**Romans 10:17** – “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

**2 Timothy 4:2** – “Preach the Word, in season, and out of season.”

**Luke 16:29-31** – Abraham told a man in hell, “If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead.”

\*note – The Kingdom first comes to earth through the Word of the Lord Jesus, indiscriminately to every kind of person in the world.

- It comes conquering hearts now through the Word of Grace  
– It will come conquering the land through the Word of Destruction.

- This is a picture of the process of Kingdom Growth – through the spreading and preaching of the Word.

\*Note – Now note this... (there are often countless people, whether conscious, or unconscious.. doing everything they can NOT to sit under Bible teaching or preaching... doing everything they can NOT to read the Bible use the Bible, repeat the Bible, sing the Bible, learn the Bible... - but golly Gee, they love Jesus. – Baloney!)

\*Note – I knew a man years ago, who for a season, rarely missed a Sunday, (I wasn’t the pastor of the church, I was the associate.) – But this man rarely if ever missed a Sunday, and I’ll bet you he didn’t hear 5 sermons a year, or sit through a half dozen Sunday school classes. – He found more ways NOT to be preached to, NOT to be taught, NOT to sit and listen, and still make sure he was at church, than anyone I have ever seen... He was willing to do everything and anything that kept

him out of LISTENING. He'd do security in the attic, if it meant not getting preached to.)

- ALL GROWTH, in width, and depth, exists in the Word of the Kingdom.

\*Note – As one old preacher used to say, It is not enough to tickle the soil, you have plant the seed. – Some people, some preachers and some “witnessers” are good at raking ground, playing in the dirt, and weeding gardens.. – but unless there is seed to plant, there is NO life!

- That's the process

### **B. The Progress to Note**

\*Note – Now the parable gives us three main characters. It gives us the Sower, the Seed, and the Soils...

- It pictures for us, not just the process by which God's realm of salvation expands, but it shows us the Progress it makes throughout time.

- 1.) 3 bad results
- 2.) 1 good result

\*Note – To borrow someone else's summation...

- The Word is Removed – that's one result
- The Word is Rejected – that's one result
- The Word is Resented – that's one result
- The Word is Received – that's one result

\*Note – Now here's the overall picture...

- There is no problem with the Sower
- There is no problem with the Seed
- The Problem is always with the Soil!

\*Note – This is why people who want to be religious, but do NOT want Biblical Christianity, change the WORD, rather than changing the Soil!

- There are 3/4<sup>th</sup>'s of the soil out there, that would rather us change the preaching, change the Bible, change the church, change anything, OTHER than them.

- Never get the idea that there is anything wrong with the gospel of Jesus Christ and the Bible, because it stops drawing crowds, and people want a new message...

- For all of the REJECTION, there is still some RECEPTION.

**C. The Principle to Hear** – “who hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

\*Note – Now Jesus chose His message to this crowd to be How the Kingdom of God moves and Works. – And He closes that with a simple principle, that He said to all..

1.) Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

- a.) Those who are willing to hear, He gives something to hear.
- b.) Those who are willing to receive, get to receive.

- That is a principle that shadows the entirety of the Bible.

III. The Explanation Jesus Provides – “Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.”

\*Note – In verse 18, Jesus shows us an example of the difference between Public Preaching, and Private teaching..

\*note – What He Proclaims to the Multitude, He explains to the disciples. What He preaches to all, He teaches to His...

- The first thing He explains are those people who just do not receive Christ's call to come into His reigning salvation.

- **The Wayside Soil** – “When anyone heareth the Word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the wayside.” – vs 19

Note the 3 actions that take place in the Wayside soil...

**A. The Delivered Word –**

- 1.) When one “heareth the Word”  
“Hearing the Word” = “receiving the seed”  
- It is the “delivered word.” – the “delivered message”

\*Note – Jesus explains that these wayside people – “have heard the word.”

- He says in the last part of the verse, that it was “sown in his heart.”
- It is the idea that they are aware they have been spoken to...
- There is an awareness that there has been a message spoken about them... to them...

**B. The Disconnected Will –** “understandeth it not”

- 1.) the Word “understandeth” here means to “put two things together.”

\*note – Now notice the Word lays it on THEM as to there being no response...

- 2.) It is an awareness without response!

- The Word spoken to them stays completely disconnected from the Will that is in them, and the Lord lays it on them!
- They do not put together – they are actually need to be saved...
- They do not put together – that Jesus is King, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Savior, and what that means for them...

- They do not put together that the reality Christ is speaking of, is the REALITY they are in.

3.) The Clue to the Hardened Heart...

- a.) It has been hardened by foot traffic of the world. – (Wayside)

\*Note – It is the repeated ground the world walks on. It is the person who has had the repetition of the world pounded into their hearts and minds, to the point, they will not even consider the Word of Truth God has spoken to them.

- We often speak of people being gospel hardened, there are also people who are Modern Hardened... - They have solidified the mainstream messages of the world as the way things are...

\*Note – Then here comes their finale...

**C. The Devilish Work –** “then cometh the wicked one and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.”

- 1.) It will only lay on the pavement of the heart so long...before the wicked one REMOVES the Word from your heart and mind into total forgotten-ness.

- He will catch away – “rapture” away  
- so as not to be there anymore

\*Note the reality is that since Genesis 3, Satan has been feverishly working to remove the Word of God from the world of men. – That was his effort in the garden, that is his effort in the kingdom, to bury, steal, remove, ruin, reject, and defeat what God says to us!

- The wayside soil, is the soil that is unwilling to put together God’s Word into their life.

Conclusion:

- Now what is the conclusion for us...
  - Saved people – SOW the WORD - Whosoever is not just an invitation to the lost, it is the audience for the saved!
  - Multitude – God grows His realm through His Word, and God saves lost people through His Son, and God grows saved people by His Word.
  - Wayside Soil – Hosea 10:12 – “Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

