

Sunday October 16th, 2005

Matthew 13 Part 9
The Parable of the Treasure

- 1). Mt 13:44 ¶ *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

- 2). There are some things to note in respect of this parable.
 - a). The central focus remains 'the kingdom of the heavens' and specifically, within the context of Matthew 13, the proclamation and offer of the kingdom to the Church.
 - b). We see a man who finds a treasure and hides it in a field
 - c). Because of the joy of finding the treasure he sells all he has and buys the field.
 - d). It is interesting to note that he buys the field in which the treasure is hidden not the treasure itself.

- 3). 'The Man' of course is identified from the parable of the Sower and the Wheat and Tares as the Son of Man – the Lord Jesus Christ
 - a). Mt 13:37 *He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.*
 - b). The field is the world - Mt 13:38 *"The field is the world,*
 - c). And the treasure, although not specifically identified in the parable can be seen to be Israel by comparing scripture with scripture.
De 7:6 *"For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.*
Ps 135:4 *For the LORD has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His special treasure.*
 - d). The phrase 'special treasure is only used in scripture in relation to Israel.

- 4). So then we have the Son of Man, finding the special treasure, Israel, hiding Israel in the world and then purchasing the world thereby gaining the treasure, Israel hidden in it.

- 5). So what is this teaching us?

a). Remember what the Lord had said - Mt 13:35b *"I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world."*

b). What are these things kept secret from the foundation of the world that He is revealing here? And what is the significance of His going back into the house to speak them?

6). Well we can thank God that scripture interprets scripture for us. Let's begin by tracing through what we know already.

7). The House we will remember is a picture of the House of Israel

a). It is in Matthew 12 where we find the Scribes and the Pharisees crossing a line that results in the offer of the Kingdom of the Heavens – that for which Jesus came - Lu 4:43 *but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent."* – being withdrawn from the nation.

b). Mt 12:22 ¶ *Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw. 23 And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" 24 Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, "This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."*

c). Mt 12:31 *"Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. 32 "Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come. 33 "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit.*

8). The withdrawal of the offer of the kingdom is pictured for us in Jesus 'leaving the house' and going to the 'seaside'. The 'seaside' is a picture of the Gentiles

a). Jon 1:11 ¶ *Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you that the sea may be calm for us?" -for the sea was growing more tempestuous. 12 And he said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will become calm for you. For I know that this great tempest is because of me."*

b). Jonah, a type of Israel, was out of the Lord's will and also out of the sea. As a result the sea raged and would only be calmed once Jonah was

cast into it. Jonah had to remain in the place of death, in the sea, for two days. Only on the third day was he placed back in the land.

c). Israel, as with Jonah has been cast into the sea – scattered among the gentile nations – and will remain there for two days – two thousand years – before being returned to the land.

d). That which took place in 1948 was an attempt to place Israel back in the land, while still out of the will of God and as a result the sea – the Gentile nations – will be in turmoil. Just turn on the TV.

e). Also in Revelation 13 we find - Re 13:1 ¶ *Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.* – the beast, with his 10 nation confederacy, coming out of the sea, out of the Gentile nations.

9). We will also recall that the four parables given outside the house dealt with the word of the kingdom - Mt 13:19 *"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, - in respect of the impact of this word throughout this present dispensation – as God deals specifically with the church*

Ac 15:14 "Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name.

10). We also saw how that taught in the parables gave us a complete history of the church within this dispensation. Showing the outworking of the enemy of our souls' attempt to destroy the kingdom message.

a). We saw the church - Re 2:4 *"Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.* At the beginning of the dispensation.

b). Ending up - Re 3:6 *"So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17 "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' --and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—At the close of the dispensation.*

11). Visual of the dispensational history of the church.

12). At the close of the dispensation, what event comes next for the church?

a). The rapture - 1Th 4:16 *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.*

b). And it is at this point that the events of the Judgment Seat of Christ take place

Re 1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet.....12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire;

2Co 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

1Co 3:11 ¶ For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

c). It is here that those typified by the woman taken from Adam's side, by Rebekah, by Ruth, by the wise virgins, the faithful servant are identified as the Bride of Christ.

d). Although the Bride is identified at this point, she does not become the Lamb's wife until Revelation 19

Re 19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

13). Clearly something needs to take place between the end of Revelation 3 and Chapter 19. What takes place is that typified for us in the Book of Ruth, and the Book of Ester, detailed in Revelation and is the subject of the parable of the Treasure.

14). Let's see what we can glean from Ruth

a). In Chapter One we see a commitment to go on to maturity symbolized by the journey to Bethlehem - *Ru 1:16 But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever*

you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God.

b). In Chapter Two we find - Eph 2:10 *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.* – symbolized by Ruth's work in the field of Boaz - Ru 2:23 *So she stayed close by the young women of Boaz, to glean until the end of barley harvest and wheat harvest; and she dwelt with her mother-in-law.*

c). In Chapter Three we see faithful obedience in preparation for appearing at the Judgment Seat, symbolized by Ruth's preparation to meet Boaz on his threshing floor - Ru 3:1 ¶ *Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, shall I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? 2 "Now Boaz, whose young women you were with, is he not our relative? In fact, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. 3 "Therefore wash yourself and anoint yourself, put on your best garment and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. 4 "Then it shall be, when he lies down, that you shall notice the place where he lies; and you shall go in, uncover his feet, and lie down; and he will tell you what you should do." 5 And she said to her, "All that you say to me I will do."*

Mt 3:12 *"His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."*

I/ And the Bride revealed, symbolized by Boaz's recognition of Ruth and granting of her request - Ru 3:8 *Now it happened at midnight that the man was startled, and turned himself; and there, a woman was lying at his feet. 9 And he said, "Who are you?" So she answered, "I am Ruth, your maidservant. Take your maidservant under your wing, for you are a close relative." 10 Then he said, "Blessed are you of the LORD, my daughter! For you have shown more kindness at the end than at the beginning, in that you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich. 11 "And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you request, for all the people of my town know that you are a virtuous woman.*

d). However we do not see a wedding take place at this point. Instead we see Boaz going to the Elders at the gate to the city in order to redeem the inheritance that had been lost to Ruth - Ru 4:9 ¶ *And Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, from the hand of Naomi. 10 "Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, I have acquired as my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his*

inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brethren and from his position at the gate. You are witnesses this day."

Ii/ Please note that it is at the conclusion of the redemption of the inheritance that Ruth, automatically becomes Boaz's wife and she is not present when this takes place.

Iii/ And the Book ends with events moving to regality –
Ru 4:18 *Now this is the genealogy of Perez: Perez begot Hezron; 19 Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab; 20 Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon; 21 Salmon begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed; 22 Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David.*

15). What we find then is the revealing of the Bride, followed by the redemption of the inheritance, resulting in the marriage of Boaz and Ruth.

16). Revelation 2 and 3 detail events at the Judgment Seat. Revelation 4 then takes us back to the beginning point of Chapter 1 - Re 4:1 ¶ *After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."*

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit;

a). What becomes clear though is that we are now witnessing an event that takes place beyond the Judgment Seat

Re 4:2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. 3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. 4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. (teach this – the rainbow – why the Elders aren't Christians)

b). It is because the Bride is now revealed that we find the Elders acting as they do - Ro 8:19 *For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.*

c). *Re 4:9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: 11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."*
(Briefly teach the 24 Elders)

17). Although the Bride has been identified we will remember that the Bride does not become the wife until Chapter 19. In Ruth we saw a delay in the marriage as Boaz redeemed the inheritance and this is exactly what we find in Revelation

a). Re 5:1 ¶ *And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. 2 Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" 3 And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. 4 So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. 5 But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." 6 ¶ And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7 Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.*

b). It is Christ as the Lamb who is worthy to open the scroll as this future work of redeeming the inheritance is made possible by His past, finished work on the cross - Col 1:20 *and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*

c). He gave all He had in order to be able to buy the field.

18). What follows is the 7 years of the Tribulation, that pictured for us in the plagues of Exodus – the redemption of the inheritance. A time that is also called the time of Jacob's trouble when God once again begins dealing with the rebellious nation of Israel - Jer 30:7 *Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.* This is the completion of Daniel's 70th week.

a). And here is the reason Christ goes back inside the house. The events of the redemption are inextricably linked to His dealing with Israel. As He redeems the inheritance for His Bride He automatically brings Israel to repentance in accord with 2 Chronicles 7:14 2Ch 7:14 *"if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

b). The focus of the Parable of the Treasure remains the church – those called out from the called – in relation to the Kingdom of the Heavens,

but this cannot be separated from His dealing with Israel. Hence He goes back inside the house.

19). While these events unfold on earth - Mt 24:21 *For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.* – His Bride will not be with Him.

- a). Just as we saw with Asanath while Joseph dealt with his brethren
- b). And Zipporah while Moses led Israel out of Egypt.
- c). Just as Ruth was not at the gate of the city with Boaz.

20). And as we have already noted the redemption of the inheritance results in the restoration of Israel to her place at the head of the nations.

a). In the Book of Esther we find Vashti's rejection by king Ahasuerus typifying Israel's rejection at Christ's first coming

Es 1:19b.. *Vashti shall come no more before King Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she.*

b). And Esther's acceptance typifying Israel's restoration at the Lord's second coming.

Es 2:17 *The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.*

c). Exactly that which has been prophesied in so many places

Ho 6:2 *After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.*

20). At the conclusion of the tribulation the inheritance- the earth- has been redeemed for the Bride and she at this point becomes the Lamb's wife. Also at this point Israel is restored and once again becomes the wife of God – as pictured for as in Abraham's marriage to Keturah.

a). It is now, at the end of the Tribulation that the Marriage Supper of the Lamb takes place in heaven and a Marriage Supper for Israel takes place on the earth.

b). Re 19:9 *Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."*

21). It is now that Christ with His wife, His co-heirs, will ascend the throne and the 1000 years of the Millennial Kingdom will begin. The picture is one of triumph and regality just as in Ruth and Esther.

22). The Lord reveals this to us in the Parable of the Treasure, given in the house, so that we won't lose sight of the importance of Israel or misunderstand His dealings with Israel as so many do. The church has not taken Israel's place.

a). He also wants us to know these events so that we won't be deceived - Am 3:7 *Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.*

Re 10:7 *but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.*

1Th 5:2 *For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.*

b). Because if we know what is coming we will be prepared and we will be able to explain the hope that is in us.

c). 2Pe 3:8 ¶ *But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 ¶ The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 ¶ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,*