The Way of Wisdom

Brent Moody · Matthew 13:1–50 · Series: **The Way of Jesus**

INTRODUCTION

- I want to ask you to try to think about these parables, the sayings of Jesus and Matthew 13, with a perspective of how these people would have heard this.
- Why is there so much resistance and opposition? Why is it small? Why is there still so much evil?
- Now what we're going to witness in these wise stories is something greater and wiser than the wisdom of Solomon.

1 Not Everybody Is Receptive to the Truth

Matthew 13:1–9; Matthew 13:10–17; Matthew 13:18–23

- As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, and another sixty, and in another thirty.
- Not everybody is receptive to the truth. It doesn't matter how truthful your words are, it doesn't matter how right you are, there's going to be people who reject the truth.
- It's not that truth needs to change to get people to accept it. The truth remains the same. The problem here are the condition of people's hearts.
- Parables, they reveal truth, but they also conceal it. But the function through which that works is the willingness of the heart to listen.
- The path is worn through difficulties. Sometimes difficulty is not of our own doing.
- The goal is to actually work on cultivating the heart so that the soil is prepared to receive the truth, the seed, and then is fruitful and produces.

2 Be Patient: Jesus' Kingdom Works Differently

Matthew 13:31–32; Matthew 13:33

- Jesus' kingdom works differently. And the message of these parables is to be patient. And realize that growth sometimes happens in ways that are fairly invisible.
- The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown, it is larger than all the garden plants, and becomes a tree.
- The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until it was all leavened.
- Spiritual growth has a compounding nature.
- He works in much more subtle means and methods. His growth is something that's going to build over time.
- It's just this little bit of starter that's hidden in there. But just from that little start, big things come.

3 Why Is There Evil? God's Patience and Mercy

Matthew 13:24–30; Matthew 13:36–43

- Well, the answer actually relates to the love of God and his patience and his mercy.
- No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest.
- Sometimes in our efforts to be judges, we destroy what is good. And that's not what God wants.
- If I'm wanting God to deal with all evil and all problems, what happens when I'm the evil and I'm the problem?
- He wants to be patient and long suffering. His desire is that everyone will come to repentance.

4 The Value Is More Than Everything Else

Matthew 13:44; Matthew 13:45–46; Matthew 13:47–50

- The importance of the gospel, it's more important than anything else in the world.
- The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy, he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
- They're willing to sacrifice everything for it.
- He has to buy it. It comes at a cost. There's a sacrifice here.
- There are sacrifices that come when we reject truth, too.
- There is the reward, but there's also the judgment.

THE CHALLENGE

Is your heart prepared for that? To say, I will do whatever he wants.

MY NOTES