

Matthew 13:51-52 Learning and Teaching the Things of God

Introduction: Jesus has given seven Kingdom parables and He asks His disciples, “Have you understood all these things?”

I. A review of the Kingdom parables.

- A. He taught them how Christianity is spread.
 - 1. It is spread thru the preaching of the gospel.
 - 2. When one hears the gospel, he has the opportunity to repent of sin, trust Jesus as Savior and be saved. (It is a golden opportunity.)
- B. He taught them that Satan opposes the work of God.
 - 1. He tries to blind the mind of the unsaved and to keep him from trusting in Jesus Christ.
 - 2. He plants in the world a counterfeit Christianity. (tares)
(He makes it look like the real thing.)
 - 3. He fills the Christian world with heretical teaching and with false teachers.
- C. He taught them that in spite of the tares and pollution in Christianity, there is still a true Christianity.
 - 1. There are still true Christians and the Lord values them highly.
(Like treasure buried in a field.)
 - 2. There are still true New Testament churches and the Lord values them also very highly.
(Like the pearl of great price.)
- D. He taught them that the end is coming.
 - 1. When it does the saved will be with God in glory.
 - 2. The unsaved will go into everlasting fire.

II. The question and its answer, Verse 51.

- A. The question which Jesus asked His disciples is: “Have you understood all these things?”
 - 1. The saved have an opportunity to understand.
 - a. Jesus had given the parables and explained them.
 - b. We have the written word of God and the Holy Spirit as teacher.
 - 2. The saved have an obligation to learn.
 - a. When God teaches man is obligated to learn.
 - b. What they did not yet understand they had the obligation to say so and He would yet teach them.
- B. The disciples answered, “Yea, Lord.” (They did not understand everything there is to know, but they understood what He taught them about the Kingdom parables.)
- C. What if He were to ask us that question?
 - 1. I could not say I understand all about the Kingdom parables. Could you?
 - 2. I can say I know more about them now than I did.
 - 3. I certainly do not know all about New Testament doctrine, but I am glad I have the opportunity to learn.

III. The responsibility to teach, Verse 52.

- A. Jesus compared His disciples to the scribes.
 - 1. The scribes were instructed in Old Testament law and in turn they were instructors in Old Testament law.
 - 2. In like manner the Lord's disciples were instructed in New Testament truths and in like manner they were to teach others. (Jesus would soon go away and His disciples would have the full task in teaching New Testament Christianity.)

- B. He compared their work to the work of a householder.
1. A householder first stores away the things which his household may need. (Wheat, grape juice, cheese, dried fruit, vegetables, wool, cotton, etc.)
 2. In like manner the teacher studies to store up knowledge and understanding of God's word.
 3. Then he stands before God's people and reaches into the storehouse to feed and clothe them.
 4. Some of the things he teaches are old, (They are eternal truths and he has known them for many years. But they are still good and fresh.)
 5. Some of the things he brings forth are new. (They are just as old as the others, but they are new to him because he has just learned them. There is no place for the Christian to stop learning new things.)
- C. A major role in New Testament Christianity is in the work of teaching and training of those who are saved.
1. Every Christian has the opportunity and the privilege of learning.
 2. Some are given special responsibilities in teaching.
 3. All of us have the obligation to share with others what we learn.

Conclusion:

1. If you are unsaved, your need is to repent and trust Jesus Christ.
2. If you are saved you can learn quicker by being active in a New Testament church.
3. You will also have a greater opportunity to teach others and do good in the cause of Christ.
4. If you are in need of church membership we invite you here.

Preached at Pleasant Hill M.B.C. 4-29-84 P.M.