

Jesus' Warning Concerning the Affect of the World System on Understanding of Two Kingdoms

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

Luke 8:4-15

INTRODUCTION

- When studying Scripture, always be aware of distinctions and similarities:
 - *Distinctions will prevent similar things from being misunderstood as being identical!*
 - *In Matt 13 and Lk 8, Jesus uses a similar object lesson to reveal truths about two different kingdoms.*

The Overview of the Four-Soil Parable in Matthew 13

Kingdom of the Heavens = God's governmental rule over the Earth (cf Dan 4:17)

- *Satan has authority over ALL nations on the Earth – Lk 4:5-6*
- God has one “borderless” nation on earth today (I Pet 2:9, Acts 15:14)

Four human responses to God's plan for His governing rule over the Earth from 1st coming to the 2nd coming

The Overview of the Four-Soil Parable in Luke 8

Kingdom of God = God's rule over those who are willingly subject to Him


- *cf Ps 103:17-21*

Four human responses to God's provision of salvation during the earthly ministry of Christ

The Distinctions and Similarities Between the Two Parables

- Soil #1 - Kingdom of the Heavens: no understanding of the revelation of Kingdom of the Heavens (Matt 13:19)
 - Kingdom of God: *unbelief in the word concerning the Kingdom of God (Lk 8:13)*
- Soil #2 - Kingdom of the Heavens: scandalized by tribulation or persecution (Matt 13:20-21)
 - Kingdom of God: *they believe it for a while, then withdraw when in a season of temptation (Lk 8:13, cf II Tim 2:11-13)*

The Distinctions and Similarities Between the Two Parables



■ Soil #4

- *Kingdom of the Heavens*: *varied yields = varied actions based upon knowing God's revealed plans for the Kingdom the Heavens (Matt 13:23)*
- *Kingdom of God*: *a perfect yield of receiving Eternal Life beginning at Pentecost (Lk 8:15)*

The Distinctions and Similarities Between the Two Parables



■ Soil #3

- **Kingdom of the Heavens**: *the word of this kingdom is choked out by -*
 - 1) anxiety of the (legal) age
 - 2) the deceit of riches (Matt 13:22, cf I Tim 6:5)

- **Kingdom of God**: *the word of God concerning the Kingdom of God is choked out by -*
 - 1) anxieties
 - 2) riches
 - 3) pleasures of physical life (Lk 8:14, cf I Tim 6:9-10)

CONCLUSION

- Matthew 6:27

- *“Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”*

- True treasure is Christ in us in order to show forth His Life

- “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.” II Cor 4:7