

ENTERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

MATTHEW 13: 3-9

Introduction:

Jesus embodied the lessons of the kingdom in parables. He took the simple things of earth—like sowing and reaping—and used them to illustrate the profound realities of the kingdom of God. Each of the parables reveals a different aspect of the truth of kingdom life.

Why did He use parables? He used parables to get our attention, and to clarify the truth. He was not attempting to hide the truth from us, but rather to open our ears and eyes to the truth.

He began with a story that helps us understand how one enters the kingdom of God. How do you actually come under the rule of God and begin to experience the victorious life of the kingdom? Jesus said, “Watch a sower sow his seed, but particularly pay attention to how the soil responds to the seed!”

I. THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENTER THE KINGDOM HAS COME TO YOU.

1. The opportunity to enter the kingdom comes through hearing the gospel of the kingdom.
2. The life of the kingdom is in the message.

II. YOU WILL EXPERIENCE OPPOSITION TO YOUR
ENTERING THE KINGDOM.

1. You will experience distractions from Satan..
2. You will experience reluctance from your own heart.
3. You will experience opposition from the world about you.

III. YOU CAN ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD TODAY.

1. You must receive the gospel.
2. You must experience the transforming power of the gospel.

Alternative outline

The primary lesson in this parable is how one enters the kingdom. One enters the kingdom through the hearing of the gospel. The sign that one has entered the kingdom is the transformation of life, the bearing of fruit.

ENTERING THE KINGDOM

1. The preaching of the gospel presents the opportunity to enter the kingdom.
2. Satan opposes our entering the kingdom.
3. The condition of our hearts makes it difficult to enter the kingdom.
- 4.. The world around us presents alternatives to entering the kingdom.

5. Entering the kingdom transforms life and makes it fruitful.

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