

Sermon on the Boat Matthew 13

Unlocking the Mysteries of the Kingdom Part 3 The Birds and the Trees

The Bible is **NOT** an open book to those enemies of Christ!

Jesus tells 7 parables in Matthew 13 to help us understand better how things work, spiritually!!!

Parable Earthly story with a spiritual meaning Meant to Reveal and Conceal

Here is another illustration Jesus used: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. ³²It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches." Matthew 13:31-32

- Parable of the Sower Satan gets people to **Reject** the Gospel
- Parable of the Weeds Satan gets people to **Imitate** the Gospel
- Parable of the Birds and the Trees Satan gets people to **Pervert & Corrupt** the Gospel

We Need to See and Understand the four Elements of this Parable

(First one not interpreted by Jesus)

1. **Sower** The **Son of Man** is the farmer who plants the good seed.

2. **Seed** It is the smallest of all seeds The Seed is the Gospel or those who have accepted the Gospel

- > **Simplicity of the Seed** Gospel is easy to Understand
- > **Strength of the seed** Gospel is **Powerful**
- > **Secret of the seed** Gospel contains Life

3. **Shrub** but it becomes the largest of garden plants.

4. **Shade Tree** it grows into a tree

Wow! the church grows into this big tree and all the pretty songbirds can sit in it and sing

Kum Ba Ya and flitter and flutter and chirp to the LORD! **WRONG!**

>Genesis 1:11-12 grass, herbs, trees reproduce after its kind

>An herb growing into a tree is **ABNORMAL PERVERSION**

Belteshazzar [Daniel] replied, 'I wish the events foreshadowed in this dream would happen to your enemies, my lord, and not to you! ²⁰The tree you saw was growing very tall and strong, reaching high into the heavens for all the world to see. ²¹It had fresh green leaves and was loaded with fruit for all to eat. Wild animals lived in its shade, and birds nested in its branches. ²²That tree, Your Majesty, is you. Daniel 4:20-22

> Babylon is the **center and origin** of all perverted pagan religions

> In the context of the previous parables the Birds are **BAD!**

> Genesis 15 Abraham offer sacrifices, chase devils birds away trying to stop worship

Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! Revelation 18:2 [NKJV]

Sometimes these dirty birds are hard to see because they

1. **Use the Bible** 2 Peter 3:16 2. **Perform Miracles** Matt. 24:24 3. **Do Good Things** Matt. 7:21

HOW CAN WE KNOW? Four tests to Administer

Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. **You must test them** to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. John 4:1

Source Test ---Do you get your beliefs from the **Bible** only or from somewhere/someone else?

¹⁸ And I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of prophecy written in this book: **if anyone adds** anything to what is written here, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book. ¹⁹ **And if anyone removes any of the words** from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book.

Revelation 22:18-19

Savior Test ---What do they believe about Jesus? Son of God? **God the Son?** Worship Jesus?

² This is how we know if they have the Spirit of God: If a person claiming to be a prophet acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God. ³ But if someone claims to be a prophet and **does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus**, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here. 1 John 4:2-3

..... many deceivers have gone out into the world. They deny that Jesus Christ came in a real body. Such a person is a deceiver and an antichrist..... 2 John 1:7

¹⁰ If anyone comes to your meeting and does not teach the truth about Christ, don't invite that person into your home or give any kind of encouragement. ¹¹ Anyone who encourages such people becomes a partner in their evil work. 2 John 1:9-11

Subject Test ---What is the main message? Is it **The Gospel** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

⁸ Let God's curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a **different kind of Gospel** than the one we preached to you. Galatians 1:8

Salvation Test ---Is Salvation by grace thru faith in the blood of Jesus shed on the cross for us as the only basis of forgiveness of sin, plus nothing else?! Are they depending on anything else to get them to heaven?

Sanctification Test Do they teach we are to progress in a life of holiness and become more like Jesus?