James #78

Secrets of old are now in view.

Next weekend I may be uploading my Sunday message early on Friday or even Saturday night, as I do have to travel to help with family matters up north.

We will be in Matthew chapter 13 for today. Please be ready to bounce around quite a bit today, we have a great deal of ground to cover and I need to stay focused on the teaching of mystery doctrine.

/The Greek word *mystērion* (mystery) was introduced first by the teaching of Jesus (Mat 13:11, Mar 4:10-11). Meaning something having a hidden or cloaked purpose, not yet revealed or fully known. In the ancient world it often referenced a secret society. Therefore, the doctrines or the secrets of the fraternity are known only to those who have been initiated (Bels) and not to the outsiders (Unbels).\

Jesus used this meaning with the disciples in Matthew 13:11; Mark 4:10-11.

Within the NT teachings almost every time we see this word mystery it is very specifically pointing to CA Mystery Doctrine.

One of our Lord’s great parables revolved around the Sower and the Seeds.

As Jesus told them later, all these parables and stories are part of the mystery of the kingdom of GOD.

Meaning the whole plan of GOD in its entirety…heavenly and earthly. Because Jesus was the kingdom of God on earth.

We as Believers have a piece of the kingdom of GOD within us.

We are ambassadors for that kingdom.

This is where we see the first clue or introduction to Mystery Doctrine.

Meaning something is about to be revealed, something new or never fully understood or seen before.

/Mat 13:13 “**Therefore I speak to them in parables;** because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, **nor do they understand**.

Our Lord quotes the prophet Isaiah (Isa 6:9-10, Ezk 12:2), because this points us to the coming interruption of Israel by a new dispensation of the fullness of the Gentiles (Church Age).\

Jesus was continually preparing HIS followers for what was about to come after HIS death, burial, resurrection, ascension and then HIS session.

Mat 13:14 And in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says, ‘YOU SHALL KEEP ON LISTENING, BUT SHALL NOT UNDERSTAND; AND YOU SHALL KEEP ON LOOKING, BUT SHALL NOT PERCEIVE;

[Mat 13:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/13/15/s_942015) FOR THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE HAS BECOME DULL, WITHTHEIR EARS THEY SCARCELY HEAR,AND THEY HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES, OTHERWISETHEY MIGHT SEE WITH THEIR EYES,HEAR WITH THEIR EARS,UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART, AND RETURN, AND I WOULD HEAL THEM.’

[Mat 13:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/13/16/s_942016) “But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear.

/[Mat 13:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/13/17/s_942017) “For truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and **did not see *it,* and to hear what you hear, and did not hear *it.***

The Dispensation of Israel were given many clues, typologies or shadows of the coming Messiah, many details about the person and work of Christ. They were even given pieces highlighting the importance of all nations (Gentiles), yet they were to rebellious and stubborn.\

Jesus is telling HIS disciples you are witnessing the fulfillment of the whole plan of God.

You are being positive Bels and you are about to be given the mystery of the kingdom of GOD.

/Mat 13:18-23 teaches us about the invisible warfare and spiritual warfare of the devil’s world. It highlights how many are distracted and pulled away from the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It shows us winners and losers in spiritual warfare as well (Mat 13:22-23). The CA is a time of intensified invisible warfare and Jesus knew what was coming.\

Mat 13:22 “And the one sown *with seed* among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, and the anxiety of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. (loser Bel of the CA)

Mat 13:23 “But the one sown *with seed* on the good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces, some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty *times as much.*”

Never in the OT was there such a strong emphasis on winners and loser in a spiritual sense. There are great lessons on those Believers who stood out and others who failed, like King Saul in the end of his reign.

There are shadows or analogies of winners and losers in the OT. Yet there is a strong emphasis on winners and losers and rewards or crowns in NT teaching.

 REPEAT

I am certain the spiritual heroes of the OT will hold high rank and status in heaven. GOD is a rewarder of those who truly love HIM seek HIM.

Yet there is something unique when the CA Bels are presented to Christ after the rapture;

/2Cor 5:10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, so that **each one may receive compensation for his deeds** *done* through the body, in accordance with what he has done, whether good or bad.

The Bema Seat Judgment of Christ happens after the RAPTURE of the Bride of Christ – Church age dispensation. There is little or no evidence this happens for OT saints as well.\

OT Bels are not part of this – the reason we know this is two reasons, they are not the BRIDE of Christ, they are God’s children and God’s family.

Only the Church is considered the Bride of Christ (mystery doctrine).

Second, the OT saints were gathered up in a victory march and removed from paradise under the earth and transported to the 3rd heaven.

 REPEAT

/Eph 4:8 Therefore it says, “WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, **HE LED CAPTIVE *THE* CAPTIVES,** AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO PEOPLE.” 9 (Now this *expression,* “He ascended,” what does it mean except **that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth?** (Col 2:15)\

There were actually hints to this event revealed in certain OT scriptures, within – Psa 68:18 as well as Prov 30:4.

OT saints were held in paradise or sometimes it was referenced as the bosom of Father Abraham such as in Luke 16:22.

Now jump down a few verses in Matt 13.

/Mat 13:24 Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is **like a man who sowed good seed in his field**. 25 “But while his men were sleeping, his **enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat,** and left.

The Seed war proclaimed in Genesis chapter 3, is highlighted (Angelic Conflict). Counterfeits and infiltration will be an ongoing issue in every dispensation culminating to its height in the Tribulation.\

At the end of the Tribulation is where the 2nd Advent of Christ happens and then there is what is known as a Baptism of Fire that cleanses the earth.

It will be the last chance for people alive during those 7 years of Tribulation, to bend the knee and accept the LORD Jesus Christ as Savior.

Christ also will gather all the Believers, all the remnant of the 12 tribes of Israel will be gathered, before the 1,000 years of reign of Christ on earth begins.

/Mat 13:30 ‘**Allow both to grow together until the harvest;** and at the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather up the weeds and bind them in bundles to burn them; but **gather the wheat into my barn**.”’”\

The Millennial Reign of Christ on earth begins with all BELIEVERS. That is the gathering of the wheat in the barn, representing the last known dispensation on earth.

These parables (sower & seeds and the wheat among tares) speak to a portion of mystery doctrine that OT saints may have understood. They were given prophecy about end times in relation to the Tribulation and 2nd Advent of Christ.

They knew the evil of the Seed WAR of Satan against God’s chosen people.

They did not have a clue of the depth or length, as well as the established ages or dispensations, that needed to unfold for the full plan of God.

The CA was completely shrouded, with barely any hints as to its approach during the first two dispensations. (Gentile & Israel)

/Just as Adam, Seth, Noah and even Abram were unaware of the coming dispensation of Israel until it opened up onto the life of Abraham. So too was the Nation of Israel unaware of the interruption of the Church Age, even though they were taught about end time prophecy concerning the Tribulation & 2nd Advent of Christ.\

I believe – the CA was only hinted about in two or three OT scriptures, it remained very vague and it was just to introduce that Gentiles were coming into the family of God.

I think this was to help Israel remain focused on their portion of the plan of God.

Now in these parables of Matthew 13 – especially in the Wheat among the Tares, we actually see a piece of mystery doctrine brought to light.

It aligns with the teaching of the Apostle Paul in 2Thessalonians;

/2Thes 2:7 For **the mystery of lawlessness is already at work**; only He who now restrains *will do so* **until He is removed**. 8 Then **that lawless one will be revealed**, whom the Lord will eliminate with the breath of His mouth and **bring to an end by the appearance of His coming**; (2nd Advent) \

The OT saints were well aware of the Nephilim; they knew about the seeds of Satan all around them. What they did not know was just how long and deceptive the spiritual battle would be.

They did not know that there would be a BRIDE of Christ, an intimate union with an age of Gentiles, that would be the last restraining force and last group of evangelists before Satan had his full authority of the earth.

 REPEAT

The Antichrist was not a concept the OT saints fully understood.

Again, jump down a few verses in Matthew 13;

/Mat 13:31 He presented another parable to them, saying, “**The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed**, which a person took and sowed in his field;

The plan of God for each dispensation is for the Believers to grow into maturity and plant the seeds of truth (Gospel).\

Now the last one we will cover is in verse 33, it points us from Israel, into the CA and then ahead into the Tribulation period.

/Mat 13: 33 He spoke another parable to them: “**The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three sata of flour** until it was all leavened.”

Leaven is always used to represent, sin, corruption and even evil. Therefore, this has to be the earthly kingdom – The woman represents the false system of religion hidden in the cosmic system. \

(dry measure about 3 gallons) The woman is being deceitful and notice the measure points to three, she also is hiding it in the good flour.

Flour representing the BREAD of the Word of God.

The leaven being a corrupting agent is seen beginning in Exodus chapter 12 into chapter 13. It is warned about in Leviticus and Deuteronomy as well.

In fact, there are references to leaven 5x in NT teaching, none of them are good;

/The Leaven of Herod, Mark 8:15 pointing to corruption. There was the leaven with Pharisees and Sadducees Mat 16:12, worldly viewpoint or secular wisdom and (Pharisees) religious lies or false teaching. Gal 5:9 there was legalism and self-righteous works programs called leaven. The leaven of loose living (licentiousness) was taught within 1Cor 5:6-8.\

The woman in Mat 13:33, refers to the ecumenical religious system that will come to a peak in the Tribulation — the religious aspect of the beast system, the woman who rides the beast in Revelation 17:1-15. She took and hid the leaven in three measures of flour:

/The woman of Mat 13:33 is the same seen in Rev 17:1-15 – the religious system of the beast (one world). The first measure of leaven hidden after the Babylonian captivity (false teaching, infiltration). The second measure of leaven introduced by Gnostics and religion of the early CA. The third leaven will begin on, or just before the Tribulation opens up, as a one world system of belief. This will permeate into the whole 7 yrs. of Tribulation.\

[Mat 13:34](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/13/34/s_942034) All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables, and He did not speak anything to them without a parable.

/[Mat 13:35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/13/35/s_942035) *This was* so that what was spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled: “I WILL OPEN MY MOUTHIN PARABLES; **I WILL PROCLAIM THINGS HIDDEN** SINCE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD.”\

Jesus is preparing them for Mystery doctrine, which was actually hinted about a few times in the OT.

/Psa 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable; **I will tell riddles of old**,

Isa 42:9 “Behold, the former things have come to pass, Now **I declare new things**; **Before they sprout I proclaim *them* to you.”\**

Jesus was proclaiming this to the apostles.

There are clues to mystery doctrine seen in a handful of these OT scriptures.

/Amos 3:7 Certainly the Lord GOD does nothing **Unless He reveals His secret plan To His servants the prophets**.\

Let me close by reading from the book of Daniel;

/Dan 12:1 “Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands *guard* over the sons of your people, will arise. And **there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time;** and at that time **your people**, everyone who is **found written in the book, will be rescued.\**

Prophecy of the Tribulation Period.

Michael is the guardian over Israel.

/[Dan 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/dan/12/2/s_862002) “And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these **to everlasting life**, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. 3“And **those who have insight will shine** like the glow of the expanse of heaven, and **those who lead the many to righteousness**, like the stars forever and ever.\

The OT saints will receive resurrected glory in the 2nd Advent.

/[Dan 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/dan/12/4/s_862004) “But as for you, Daniel, **keep these words secret and seal up the book until the end of time**; many will roam about, and knowledge will increase.”\

Meaning a time when information and knowledge will be available at an alarming rate – people will be able travel everywhere in a very quick fashion.