



DAILY READINGS

THREE CHAPTERS. THREE SECTIONS.
ONE FRAMEWORK. EVERY DAY.

DAY 13

MATTHEW 13 - ROMANS 13 - ACTS 13



ABOUT THIS BRIEF

WHY WE PUT THIS TOGETHER

Every day of the 88-Day New Testament Bible Study covers three chapters across three different sections of the New Testament simultaneously. The reading plan was designed so that each day you experience the Kingdom gospel, the grace gospel, and the transition between them side by side. But without context, those three chapters can feel disconnected or even contradictory. The daily summaries exist to bridge that gap showing you why it matters and how it connects to the bigger picture.

We put these together because rightly dividing the word of truth is not just a concept to understand once and move on. It is a lens to apply every single day. Each summary identifies which section of the framework you are reading in, what the primary audience is, and how that day's three chapters speak to each other across different administrations of God's plan.

A NOTE ON USE

This document is free to use for personal reading, small group study, and sharing with others. It is not a statement of church doctrine. It is a teaching tool designed to help people read their Bible with greater understanding. Scripture quotations are taken from King James Version (KJV) unless indicated otherwise.

This material is intended to encourage Bible reading, not replace it. Joe Bible Coach holds these views with conviction and humility, recognizing that other believers may see things differently.

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INTRODUCTION

Matthew 13 marks a major turning point as Jesus reveals the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, explaining through parables how God's Kingdom program will unfold during the King's rejection.

Romans 13 shows how those who have trusted Christ under the gospel of the grace of God are to live as faithful citizens, people marked by love, and believers who walk in the light while eagerly awaiting the Lord's return.

Acts 13 shows the Holy Spirit sending out Barnabas and Saul, beginning Paul's missionary ministry. As many Jews reject the message, Paul declares, "Lo, we turn to the Gentiles," making the transition toward the broader proclamation of the gospel increasingly evident.

Matthew 13	Romans 13	Acts 13
Jesus reveals the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven through parables	Believers live as responsible citizens under grace while awaiting Christ's return	Paul begins his first missionary journey and turns increasingly toward the Gentiles
Israel's rejection leads to teaching in parables	Love fulfills the Law through the Spirit	Paul's ministry becomes the primary focus of Acts
The Kingdom continues during the King's rejection	Grace produces practical Christian living	The transition toward the Gentile mission becomes unmistakable
The mysteries of the Kingdom are revealed	Walk in love, light, and obedience	Justification is proclaimed apart from the Law



MATTHEW 13 - THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Theme

Jesus begins teaching in parables, revealing the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven because of Israel's growing rejection.

Outline

1. The Parable of the Sower (vv. 1–23)
 - Four types of soil represent four responses to God's Word.
 - Only the good ground bears lasting fruit.
2. Why Jesus Speaks in Parables (vv. 10–17)
 - Because Israel has rejected Him, Jesus begins teaching in parables.
 - Truth is revealed to believing disciples but hidden from those who have hardened their hearts.
3. The Kingdom Parables (vv. 24–52)
 - The Wheat and the Tares; The Mustard Seed; The Leaven; The Hidden Treasure; The Pearl of Great Price; The Dragnet.
 - These parables describe the course of the Kingdom of Heaven during the King's rejection until His future return.
4. Jesus Rejected at Nazareth (vv. 53–58)
 - Jesus returns to His hometown.
 - Because of unbelief, He performs few mighty works there.

Kingdom Emphasis

- Audience: Israel.
- Matthew 13 introduces the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, truths not previously revealed in the Old Testament concerning the Kingdom during the King's absence.
- The Kingdom program continues, but Israel's rejection changes the way Jesus presents His message.



ROMANS 13 - CITIZENS UNDER GRACE

Theme

Paul teaches believers how to live responsibly before governing authorities and in their daily relationships while awaiting Christ's return.

Outline

1. Submission to Government (vv. 1–7)
 - Civil authorities are ordained by God.
 - Believers are to obey lawful authority and pay what is owed.
2. Love Fulfills the Law (vv. 8–10)
 - The believer's ongoing obligation is to love others.
 - Love fulfills the righteous intent of the Law.
3. Walk in the Light (vv. 11–14)
 - The return of the Lord is nearer than when we first believed.
 - Cast off the works of darkness.
 - Put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace Emphasis

- Romans 13 teaches the practical conduct of believers living under grace.
- Rather than seeking righteousness through the Law, believers demonstrate Christ's life through love, obedience, and holy living.
- Paul reminds the Body of Christ to live with an eternal perspective as they await the Lord.



ACTS 13 - PAUL BEGINS HIS MINISTRY

Theme

The Holy Spirit sets apart Barnabas and Saul, and Paul's public ministry to the Gentiles begins.

Outline

1. Barnabas and Saul Are Sent Out (vv. 1–3)
 - The Holy Spirit calls Barnabas and Saul for missionary service.
 - The church at Antioch sends them out.
2. Ministry on Cyprus (vv. 4–12)
 - Elymas the sorcerer opposes the gospel.
 - Paul rebukes him.
 - The Roman governor believes.
3. Paul's Sermon at Pisidian Antioch (vv. 13–41)
 - Paul reviews Israel's history.
 - He proclaims Jesus as the promised Messiah.
 - He preaches forgiveness of sins through Christ.
 - He declares that believers are justified from all things, something the Law of Moses could not accomplish.
4. The Gentiles Rejoice (vv. 42–52)
 - Many Jews reject Paul's message.
 - Paul announces: "Lo, we turn to the Gentiles."
 - The Gentiles gladly receive the Word of God.

Transition Emphasis

- Acts 13 is one of the great turning points in Scripture.
- The focus shifts from Peter's ministry centered in Jerusalem to Paul's missionary ministry from Antioch.
- Although Paul always offers the message to the Jews first, the increasing rejection by Israel results in the gospel being proclaimed widely among the Gentiles.
- The transition toward the dispensation of grace becomes much more visible.



2 Timothy 2:15

Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth. (AMPC)



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