

Melbourne Community Church (MCC)

Sunday Service — July 24, 2022

Sermon Notes: “Understanding the Mysteries of the Kingdom,” [Matthew 13:24-52](#), by Dr. Brian Russell, Professor of Biblical Studies, Asbury Seminary.

Old Testament Reading: [Psalms 78:1-7](#)

New Testament Reading: [Philippians 3:7-11](#)

What we will learned last week: ([Matthew 13:1-23](#))

- What might we learn about the Sower, the seed, the soil, and the plant?
- Why does Jesus speak in parables to all but the disciples?
- What are conditions of the soil that leads to unfruitfulness or fruitfulness of the plant?
- What is it that grows from good soil and what does it produce?

What we will learn this week: ([Matthew 13:24-52](#))

- Three parables on the Kingdom:
 - Weeds among the wheat ([Matthew 13:24-30](#))
 - Mustard seed and tree ([Matthew 13:31-32](#))
 - Yeast in the bread ([Matthew 13:33](#))
- Jesus explains the parables to the disciples ([Matthew 13:36-43](#))
- With the disciples, Jesus adds three metaphors of the Kingdom:
 - Treasure in a field ([Matthew 13:44](#))
 - Pearl of great value ([Matthew 13:45](#))
 - Good and bad fish in the net. ([Matthew 13:47-50](#))
- Teachers of the law who understand bring out treasures old and new ([Matthew 13:51-52](#))
- Jesus’ rejection in his hometown and their lack of faith. ([Matthew 13:53-58](#))

In the parables Jesus spoke to the crowds:

- Who sowed the weeds among the wheat?
- Why would Jesus allow the weeds to grow among the wheat until the harvest?
- What happens to the weeds?

(Over)

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- What is the relative size of the mustard seed in the fields or the yeast in the dough?
- Does this make them hard to recognize?
- How is the Kingdom of God like the mustard seed and the yeast in their ultimate effect?
- What will happen to those people who are like the weeds?
- When will the separation of wheat from the weeds or the good fish from the bad occur?
- Who will do the gathering?

Why does Jesus provide the interpretation of the parables to the disciples, but not to the crowds? ([Isaiah 6:9-13](#))

Jesus tells them eventually the disciples will be able to proclaim Jesus from both the testimony of Jesus and the Old Testament prophets.

Why do you think the people of Jesus' hometown rejected him as a prophet (or as the Messiah)?

Additional Notes:

Internet Resources: [The Bible Project: Matthew 1-13](#); [The Bible Project: Matthew 14-28](#); [Matthew Overview Poster](#)

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