

THE PARABLE OF THE NET

Mt. 13:47-50

I. Introduction:

A. Again, a parable is... Jesus' audience would have been well acquainted with fishing (**cf. Mt. 4:18**).

II. Looking at the Verses:

A. **Vs. 47**

1. **Again, the kingdom of heaven...** The then coming church (**Mt. 16:17-18**).

2. **...is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea...** "Net" = a drag-net.

3. **...and gathered of every kind** There were fish of every sort.

B. **Vs. 48**

1. **Which, when it was full, they drew to shore...** "They" would be fishermen.

2. **...and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.** Only 2 kinds of fish.

C. **Vs. 49**

1. **So shall it be at the end of the world...**

a. The world will end (**2 Pet. 3:4-7, 10-12; 2 Th. 1:7-9**).

2. **...the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just...**

a. Wicked = those who are an affront to God. Just = those who lived by faith (**Heb 10:38; Rom. 2:13**).

D. **Vs. 50**

1. **And shall cast them into the furnace of fire...**

a. Sounds really pleasant huh? Did you notice that the wicked do not go straight to hell when they die?!

2. **...there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.**

a. Wailing = lamentation. Gnashing of teeth = grinding (because of pain). People will be conscious.

III. Some Look for More than is There:

A. Some see the key thought as man's role in drawing people into kingdom in via the gospel (**Jn. 12:32; Rom 1:16**).

1. "Fishermen" = angels not earthly messengers.

2. The setting is not the age of gospel proclamation but the judgment.

IV. The Main Point of the Parable:

A. 1 of 2 destinations for all of mankind.

B. Those who end up in hell and those who do not wind up in hell (**cf. Mt. 25:31-46**).