

THE NET & THE FISHES

MATTHEW 13

Parable Series #3

Text: Matthew 13:47-50

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⁴⁷ Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: ⁴⁸ Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. ⁴⁹ So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, ⁵⁰ And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Introduction:

1. THE STORY

A. The Net

1. Was something that was prepared for a specific purpose.
2. It's sole purpose is to catch fish.
3. The net is not limited to the type of fish it catches.
4. It receives all that come into it.

B. The Sea

1. Is the place the net is designed for.
2. The placed that housed the fish for the net.

C. The Fishermen

1. Not much is said of them except "they".
2. Were the ones who were to throw out the net.

D. The Fish

1. There were two types of fish mentioned in this story.
 - a. Good.
 - i. Were sound and edible.
 - b. Bad
 - i. Were putrid, dead fish, and unfit for food.

2. THE BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

A. The Net

1. The Gospel not Salvation

- a. Was prepared & fitted for a special purpose
 - i. Salvation of the lost.
- b. Makes no distinction of the fish.
 - i. The gospel is given to everyone.

B. The Sea

1. The World

- a. Is the place in which the gospel net is to be used.
- b. It houses the people that the gospel is designed to catch.

C. The Fishermen

1. Those who are saved.

(Mat 4:19 KJV) "And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

(Mark 1:17 KJV) "And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."

- 2. Are the ones that handled the gospel net.

D. The Fish

- 1. Are simply the people that the gospel is for.
- 2. Not everyone that's shared the gospel will get saved.

E. The Angels

- 1. Carry out the judgment given by the Lord and the judgment seat.

3. PERSONAL APPLICATIONS

A. The Gospel is for you.

B. Once saved I become one that must handle the net.

C. Realize that the Gospel is for everyone, everywhere.

D. As fishermen our job is to only separate the good from the bad, not to judge and pronounce judgment.

E. As fisherman we are not to get discouraged that everyone that is presented the gospel doesn't get saved.

F. Our job is to spread the net, and will not be finished until every man is saved.