#### MATTHEW 13.1-58

### THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you.

Have you understood all these things?"

Jesus asked.

#### THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN—

- Matthew 13 contains 8 parables that communicate principles and understanding about the Kingdom of God
- The appearing of the Son of God brings the appearing of the Kingdom of God

So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

# "I WILL OPEN MY MOUTH IN PARABLES, I WILL UTTER THINGS HIDDEN SINCE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD."

#### PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM—

- Parable of the Soils (3-23)
- Parable of the Weeds (24-30)
- Parable of the Mustard Seed (31-32)
- Parable of the Yeast (33)
- Parable of the Discovered Treasure (44)
- Parable of the Exceptional Pearl (45-46)
- Parable of the Net and Fishes (47-59)
- Parable of the Teacher of the Kingdom (52)

## Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable?

-Jesus in Mark 4.13

#### THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS—

- Soil that is too hard to receive the seed
- Soil that is too shallow to sustain the seed
- Soil that is too congested to nurture the seed
- Soil cultivated to produce a harvest

#### HARD, COMPACTED SOIL—

- Hardened and compacted soil cannot receive the seed
  - Hebrews 3.13
- Unprepared and unrestricted—no boundaries
  - Hosea 10.12

#### SHALLOW, UNSUSTAINING SOIL—

- A sense of need and sin, a desire for forgiveness and blessing
- No true surrender of heart and will
- No understanding of the worth of Christ
- No desire to live a set-apart life

#### CONGESTED, UNNOURISHING SOIL—

- Competition and congestion: the seed and the weeds competing for the same space and nourishment
- Weeds and thorns are invasive—concerns of life, deceitfulness of wealth
  - Luke 21.34; Luke 12.15

#### CULTIVATED SOIL—

"hears the Word and understands it"

- How well do you hear?
  - James 1.22-25; Psalm 1.2-3
- What harvest does the Sower expect?

#### CULTIVATED SOIL—

- What harvest does the Sower expect?
  - by obedience (John 15.10)
  - love (John 15.15.16–17)
  - righteousness (Philippians 1.11)
  - Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5.22-23)
  - > people saved and disciples made (Matthew 28.19-20)

Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God. But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless and is in danger of being cursed. In the end it will be burned.

