A Kingdom Mystery Sun Am 10/30/22

Matthew 13:1-12 NKJV

13 On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea.

2And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.

3Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: “Behold, a sower went out to sow.

4And as he sowed, some *seed* fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.

5Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

6But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

7And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.

8But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

9He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

10And the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do You speak to them in parables?”

11He answered and said to them, “Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

12For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

 *Believers increase in knowledge, but unbelievers go into more ignorance and darkness.*

# Titus 1:15 NKJV

# 15To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

# Matthew 13:17 NKJV

# 17for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous *men* desired to see what you see, and did not see *it,* and to hear what you hear, and did not hear *it.*

#  *Three things that they were failing to do; see it, hear it, or understand it.*

# 2 Timothy 2:15 NKJV

# 15Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

#  *This is an ongoing chosen lifestyle to be careful and persistent to learn and apply God’s Word to your life.*

# Matthew 13:18-21 NKJV

# 18“Therefore hear the parable of the sower:

# 19When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it,* then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

# 20But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

# 21yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

#  *A plain reference to backsliding.*

# Matthew 13:22-23 NKJV

# 22Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

# 23But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands *it,* who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

#  *Fruit bearing depends upon the kind of soil and proper care in cultivation.*

#  *Proper Cultivation:*

# John 15:1-8 NKJV

# 15 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

# 2Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

# 3You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

# 4Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

# 5“I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

# 6If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

# 7If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

# 8By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.