

You Have to Hear the Prerequisites, Part 2

Last night we were talking about the wheat and the tares. Some hear, but it is according to how you hear. Blessed are your ears, our Master said, according to how you hear (Mk 4:24). It is how you understand the Word according to Matthew 13. It is according to how you hear and understand the Word that you see something you have to obey or not. Either way results in the fruit you finally bear. It is as our Master said in Jn 15:8. If we bear much fruit it proves we are His disciples. If we don't, we are not really His disciples, because our Master said you can tell a tree by its fruit (Mt 7:20).

Then it speaks of those who temporarily receive the word, but then they fall away (Mt 13:20-21). I guess it is because whatever they found was not satisfying to them. They didn't find the treasure in the field. What they did find was not worth everything to them. They leave to gain what they could have in the world. Or they leave to avoid earthly discomfort. They lose their commitment because somehow the Word didn't go deep into them. It went superficially into them. The pursuit of earthly desires meant more to them, the value of what they could receive was greater to them. Matthew 13 covers the whole gamut. It tells what we will face in the time to come, the true and the false, the clean fish and the unclean fish. They are brought together, for the net sweeps the sea, but then there is a ferreting.¹ The bad fish, the unclean ones, are thrown away. Only the clean fish are taken.

A lot of people come in from Christianity, and they weren't so much ashamed of Jesus in Christianity. Somehow they come here and they are ashamed of our Master Yahshua. There are a lot of things to consider. There are different saviors. To transfer from one to another is a pretty hard thing. You have to see where the Jesus has taken Christianity. You have to see where he has led them and every division. The western and

¹ To *ferret*, in this sense, is to search and discover through persistent investigation. It is to uncover and bring to the light by searching.

eastern division, the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox, the killing, the murders, the Crusades, and everything under the sun, like hanging heretics. It is always the people with the right doctrine killing the people with bad doctrine, and never the other way around.

Ferreting Out the Tares (is for the angels to do)

There has to be a restoration of all things in the last days and then there will be many coming in. Even in that restoration, our Master said, there will be the wheat and the tares. They closely resemble one another, but tares are poisonous. The servants knew that tares were poisonous. If they started making bread out of it, the result would be poisonous.

The wheat and the tares are pretty much indistinguishable until they ripen. You don't go pull the tares out because you are liable to pull up the wheat, too. You water them and wait for them to mature. When they start to show their heads then you can distinguish them at the harvest. The farmer would weed out the tares at the harvest. You can see that also in Mt 24:13; those who endure through the ferreting that Matthew 24 speaks of are saved. You can see it in the example of the good fish and the bad fish. You can see it in Mt 24:9-13. In Mt 10:21 you can see that even some of the young people will turn against their parents and some of the parents will turn against their children and have them killed.

The genuine and the counterfeit will remain until the harvest. They will be with us to the end, nearly. The counterfeit disciples pretend. They are good pretenders. The genuine are those you might confuse with the foolish virgins. The foolish virgins are saved, but they are foolish. They are not being obedient to the Word as they have regard for themselves only, so they are not praying for their brothers.

In Mt 13:47 you can see the fish of every kind. The great net doesn't discriminate. It gathers everything without discrimination. The work of ferreting out, of separating out

the false, is not necessarily our responsibility. It is very difficult. It says the angels will do it. So you see the “fish” of every kind there. I wonder whether they throw them to the side or back in the sea during the work of separating them out. It seems like they would throw them back in.

The Angels See Everything

I want to make a point about the angels there. They are spirits, messengers who serve mankind. They serve those who, according to Heb 1:14, will inherit salvation. They observe and can ferret out things. This will happen right before the end. It also speaks about the angels in 1 Cor 11:10. The angels are observing us in the Edah, and not just in our meetings, but all day long. They actually know the true from the false. They know obedient children from disobedient children. They know our attitudes and everything about us.

“For this reason the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.” (1 Cor 11:10)

They see a woman with her head covered. They see how they are in their bedroom. They see how they are in the house, with their family – they see all day long. They observe what we do, our attitude, and see how we think. There is no way we can pretend, although we *can* pretend. We can fool each other a lot, but not our Father. He has messengers who see how we act. We can grieve the Holy Spirit. No one will get away with anything – not one thing – for it is all written down in our conscience. That is how it is.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind, which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” (Mt 13:47-50)

So you can see you can't just feign submission and respect because we know what true submission is. Our Father's angels are present not only in our minchot, but also day and night.

1 Cor 11:10 — We have to learn what *covering* means. Women are the restorers of the fall. They are absolutely to do what women were created to do in the first place, and didn't do. It will come about through them. It is very important.

Even in Eph 3:10 it shows how they observe us and are amazed at our submission, our reverence, our worship, and our love for one another. What does it say there?

“To the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places.”

They watch and observe our ways and how we worship day and night, as Mal 1:11 says. *Worship* and *serve* are the same word.

We can't separate out and ferret the wheat from the tares. You can't tell the difference. Of course, we have to pull people up who commit gross sins, the kinds of sins that hurt and destroy people's lives. Among such sins are sexual sins. But the person who committed such a gross sin in 1 Cor 5:5 was obviously not a tare, for Paul said he would be saved in the day of Messiah. That person was actually a true believer but he fell into certain types of sin and committed a sin unto death.

Even a tare can pretend and be self-righteous. You are just as bad as the tare when you make railing judgments and do not encourage someone. That is the significance of having the tares and the wheat together. We look at them, ponder, wonder, but we have hope for them. We pray for them, even though they look peculiar.

It is not our job to ferret them out. We are not equipped to do that. If we actually do that we might make a mistake and pull up the wheat and throw it away. That would be a terrible sin on the part of some self-righteous disciple. It is not our work. We are not equipped to do it. It is only the work of angels. We may have certain accusations and

might think we have discernment. But it may be, it could be, that you have to get checked, that it could be an accusation of the enemy. You could have all kinds of thoughts that come to you. The enemy is here all the time, and Satan accuses the brothers through each other. We have to have our shield on, our breastplate. We have to encourage one another daily. When there is the outward rebellion and defiance, even that has to be judged. One person can't judge it properly. It has to be judged by the qahal.

We are the fishermen. We are not the ferreters. It is not up to us to judge, unless we have the judgment of the qahal on certain rebellious acts. There is obviously going to be a great influx of people coming in during the last days. So, what are we going to do? There are going to be the wise virgins, the foolish virgins, and the carnal, the three types of disciples. The wise virgins and the foolish virgins will flee to the wilderness for the last three years. The tares will leave before then.

The wise virgins will be taken up with our Master and the foolish virgins will be left behind. He will come and take the wise virgins to be part of His army. The foolish virgins will have the torment of being left behind. After the thirty-day war there will be the forty-five day judgment. They will be translated to Jerusalem and be judged there. Those whose works were not done in faith did not prosper because they did not confess their sins.

That is why we don't prosper, because we don't confess and renounce our sins. Pr 28:13 – If we aren't prospering, showing and bearing fruit, what is happening? It is baffling to some, but they, in their concern of love and not of judgment, take counsel with their wiser brothers and sisters.

The Comprehensive Gospel Includes the Prerequisites

There are a lot of things in the gospel that we now understand better. The comprehensive gospel will help to ferret out from the beginning those who aren't true

and don't surrender everything absolutely in their lives. The many other words of the gospel ratify true belief.

The rich young ruler came up to our Master and said, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

He didn't say, "Believe in Me and then you will have eternal life."

Obviously, the rich young ruler "believed" but God does know the heart of each man. He knows all about man. He knows whom He can entrust Himself to and whom He can't (Jn 2:23-25). A lot of these people come in over the wall because we can't tell the difference. They tell us they want to be saved, but the Word doesn't go deep into them. The proper understanding doesn't penetrate into the good soil, where the seed would actually die and come forth with thirty, sixty, or a hundred times as much.

So, He told the rich young ruler that he had to give up everything he possessed, give it to the poor, and come and follow Him. Christians will say, of course, that that is works' salvation. But it is not. Eternal life is free gift, but who does He give it to? He gives it to those who believe and entrust themselves to Him, not to people who believe only in their mind. There are two types of belief. Two billion people in Christianity believe, but not one of them is saved. There is no way you can have salvation outside of the restoration of the Body of Messiah, outside of the restoration of all things in the last days. That is what will produce fruit. That is where the thirty, sixty, or one hundred fold is produced.

They have to renounce all things that hinder obedience. Obviously, the rich young ruler's possessions hindered obedience to our Master. It proved he didn't believe. He walked away sad because he didn't actually believe. People may make a professed belief, but in their heart, they don't know Him, as Paul said,

"That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." (Phil 3:10)

A lot of people in the Body are just not honest about it. They are tares but they are not honest about it. They prefer to be pretenders. We can understand why our Master just didn't answer the rich young ruler by saying, "Believe in me."

To the jailer they said, "Believe in Messiah Yahshua and you and all your household will be saved." Then they spoke the word to him and all his household. They went through everything about obedience and all that they had to do – and after all of that they were baptized. When was Paul saved? On the road to Damascus? No, but he was saved after a disciple came to him three days later and he was baptized. The man had to explain a lot to him.

So, we see in Mt 13:44-46 the things that reveal the value of the treasure they had found. They happened to come upon a people. They happened to come upon the treasure. The value they saw there was the value of the Kingdom. This is a parable of the Kingdom. It outweighed all other things. It wasn't like this and this [gesturing using his hands as scales of two things close in value]; it was like this and that [with his hands showing the great difference in value]. It wasn't that it just outweighed it, but the other things weren't even in the balance, by comparison, with the Kingdom of Heaven. It outweighed all other things he could ever have, and he went out and gave up his wife, his family, and going to college. What can college do for you except make an atheist or agnostic out of you? You have no future outside of the Body of Messiah, for our Master Yahshua is everything to us.

The Body of Messiah is everything you ever need, and that is salvation. That is that basis of the good news for the Kingdom, which requires obedience. It authenticates true belief. That is the reason that Peter went on and on with many other words after they said, "What must we do?"

Acts 2:37-38 — He said what they had to do to believe in our Master Yahshua and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of their sins. He went on and on in verse 40 about what it took to be saved from this wicked and perverse generation. You

have to hate your life in this world to be saved. Jn 12:25 – Do Christians hate their life in the world? No, they love their life in the world. If you do, you aren't saved.

I went down to the Billy Graham concert and wanted to be saved. They asked me if I believed in Jesus and I said yes. So, they told me to go home because I was already saved. So "Billy and me" went home at thirteen or fourteen, smoking cigarettes – but we were saved. I'd believed in Jesus all my life since I was six. The organ was playing and I was mesmerized and if I didn't go down I was going to hell. So I got up and then I went down and they prayed over me, but whom did I receive?

Did they tell me anything? No, all I had to do was "believe in Jesus." So, why does it say "What must we do, brothers?"

Then he told them in verse 40:

"And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, 'Be saved from this perverse generation.'"

Then what did they have to do?

"Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them." (Acts 2:41)

Ratifying the Gospel

About three thousand souls were baptized that day. How many walked away sad like the rich young ruler after they heard the many other words? The many other words ratify the gospel. To *ratify* is to confirm that true belief. You cannot just coming in over the wall. You have to come through the gate. *Authenticate* means to establish as being genuine. You have to be established as genuine. Our Master, when He spoke to the rich young ruler, was establishing him as genuine or false. Did our Master cause him to stumble by putting all these demands on him? Was He wrong to insist on "works salvation?" The anti-cult people ought to get on Him, or the watchdogs.

So you can see what a person has to do to be saved. As a result, Acts 2:44 was no big surprise. It was no big surprise for them to live together and hold all things in

common. What would it be like if you heard Acts 2:44-45 after a hearing the gospel in the Billy Graham crusade? How many Christians love their brothers enough to live with them? You have to put up with them all day long, with all their idiosyncrasies.

Acts 2:44 — “All those who believed were together and had all things in common...” All who believed were together. All who believed were together and had all things in common.

Everything the gospel consists of is to authenticate true belief. The belief they had in Jn 2:23-24 was not genuine belief. My sister believed in the resurrection of Jesus. She was so mad at me after Easter. She had just gotten back from a big sermon. All the preacher talked about was Jesus being resurrected, and she said, “So what? What does difference does it make? I have heard it all my life.” She didn’t believe in her heart. When you believe in your heart it changes absolutely everything about you. If we can confess that in our hearts and speak that out of our mouth then we can be saved (Rom 10:9-10).

I am thankful that we can authenticate the gospel. I am thankful we can authenticate and ratify true belief by the gospel by the many other words. “I believe in Jesus,” people say, but what does the world see?

You have to know what He demands, for then you can either reject or receive Him. Even then, there will be tares coming in through the nets. And what is that going to do to us who are genuine? It is going to purify us in every way. They try to tear down and we build up with greater force. What does Isa 49:17 say? The builders over-compensate for the people who tear down and so we are built up greater. Our Father is building us up to be rulers in the next age.

You can’t escape the pollution. Don’t run to the wilderness now. You can’t do anything there. The people need to be saved, not the trees. We need to sacrifice to do that. If you don’t have eternal life you might want a little more good air to breathe for

the next few years. Let's breathe bad air for a few years in order to save people and then we will breathe good air in the next age.

Jesse – You can see in Mt 13:19, *“When 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.”* I really heard this morning that we have to make sure we understand what we hear. The seed is the Word. The Word is sown. The net goes out and drags in all the fish. There are only some that understand and some that don't. Some of those who don't understand put on a façade that they do. Some are content to pretend their whole time in the Body, because they would rather do that than be open and honest. That is how some will be to the end. They don't truly understand and so the evil one snatches it away.

It is not that they can't do anything about it. It is that they are unwilling to do our Master's will (Jn 7:17). That is why they don't understand and why the evil one can snatch away what is not truly theirs anyway.

Shemuel – The tares, finally, do not bear fruit in spite of all that was put into them. It all boils down to how we hear. If we hear right, we understand and we will obey. Then we will bear fruit. If we hear it in such a way that it goes into us, we will bear fruit. Then we will know that we are not a tare.

That's right. 1 Jn 5:13 – “I have written these things to you that you may know that you have eternal life.” 1 John was written so we could judge ourselves.

Yoceph Daniel – The Pharisees built shrines to all the prophets their fathers killed. If you went back to the first Edah you would find a thriving culture that got people's attention. Then they built cathedrals on top of the places they thought the apostles were buried.

Ha-êmeq – It is just like what Yoneq was saying yesterday — *that* salvation doesn't work. Our salvation works because we work. We work because that is what we want to do. They don't work, but ours is a faith that works. Theirs is a faith that doesn't. We will show our faith by our works. It is like Gamaliel said, you need thousands of volumes to try and convince a person he is a disciple even though he does no work, even though he doesn't obey the Master.

He didn't say to the rich young ruler, "Only believe and give me ten percent." He didn't say that. He said, "Give me all your possessions." That was "works" and it didn't work for him. He wanted to hear another gospel. "Give up all your possessions and come and follow Me," though, is what works.

The rich young ruler, whom we call the rich young yuppie, can't follow our Master with all of his possessions weighing him down.

Ha-êmeq – It is so clear. You don't need volumes to prove the simple message of the gospel. The volumes are to get to think in such a complicated way that you can ignore the simple message of the gospel.

They fight that. They don't want to give everything up. They just want to go to heaven when they die. I would try my best to convince people, all my friends, but they had been totally Christianized. They were in Chattanooga, the buckle of the Bible belt. You can go through great complexities of reasoning to justify your hatred of the cross.