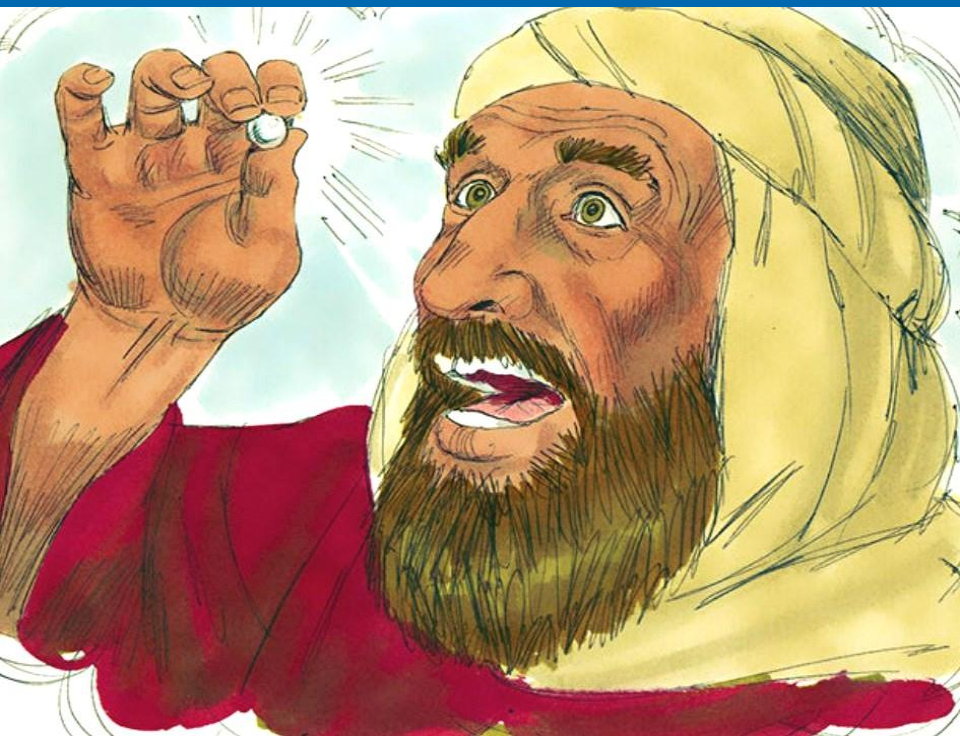


# Shema!

## *Hearing and Obeying God's Word*

- The meaning of the Kingdom of God is not a settled matter within Christianity
- ***Hear O Israel, the Lord is God, the Lord is One.***
- ***Blessed be the name of the glory of His Kingdom forever and ever***
- The concept of the Kingdom of Heaven was not new with Yeshua; only its arrival was new





# PARABLE TWINS

- Parables are designed to use simple word pictures to make a single point
- The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Woman adding Leaven were connected twins that make the same point
- The only way to learn what the Kingdom of Heaven is like is through Christ's parables



# JESUS CHRIST

## THE FIELD, TREASURE AND PEARL?



- Yeshua never glorifies Himself; He only glorifies His Father and The Kingdom of Heaven
- Origen, early 3<sup>rd</sup> century
- Origen believed: 1) What the Jews had was taken away by God and given to gentiles 2) The treasure, field, and pearl all represented Christ
- The 2 parables begin with “The Kingdom of Heaven is Like”..... So both are about the Kingdom, not Christ



- “Salvation in Jesus” did not replace “the Kingdom of Heaven is near”
- “It’s all about Jesus” doesn’t reflect a true reading of the NT
- The Good News is about Jesus as well as about the Kingdom of God
- Early Christianity discarded the Kingdom of Heaven in favor of Christ

# THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD



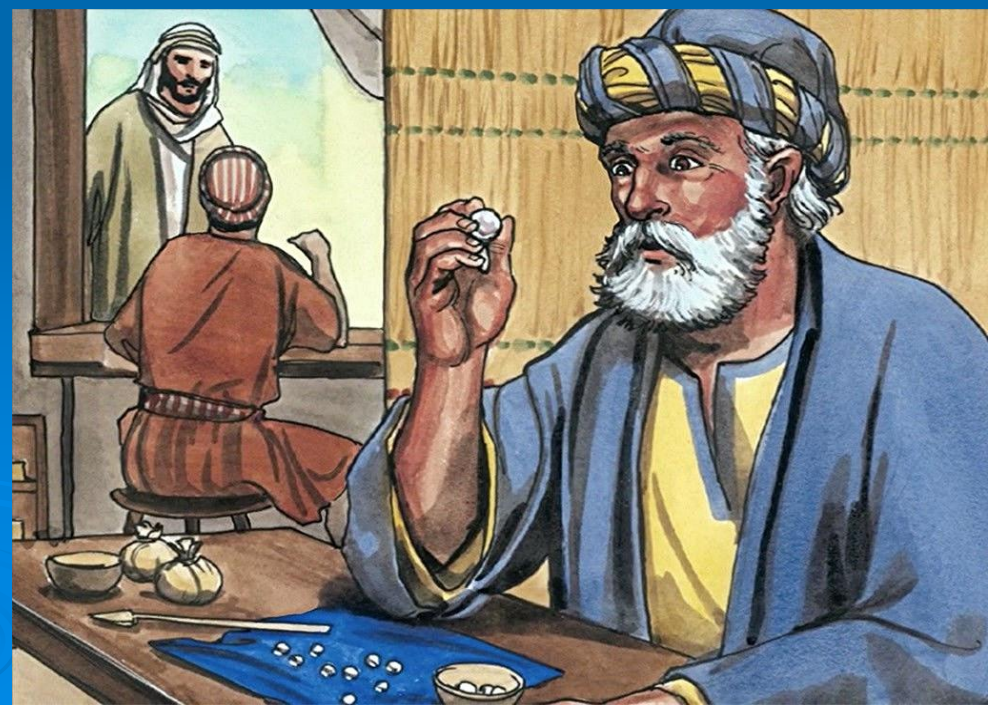
— IT'S ALL ABOUT —  
**JESUS**

**ALMOST**

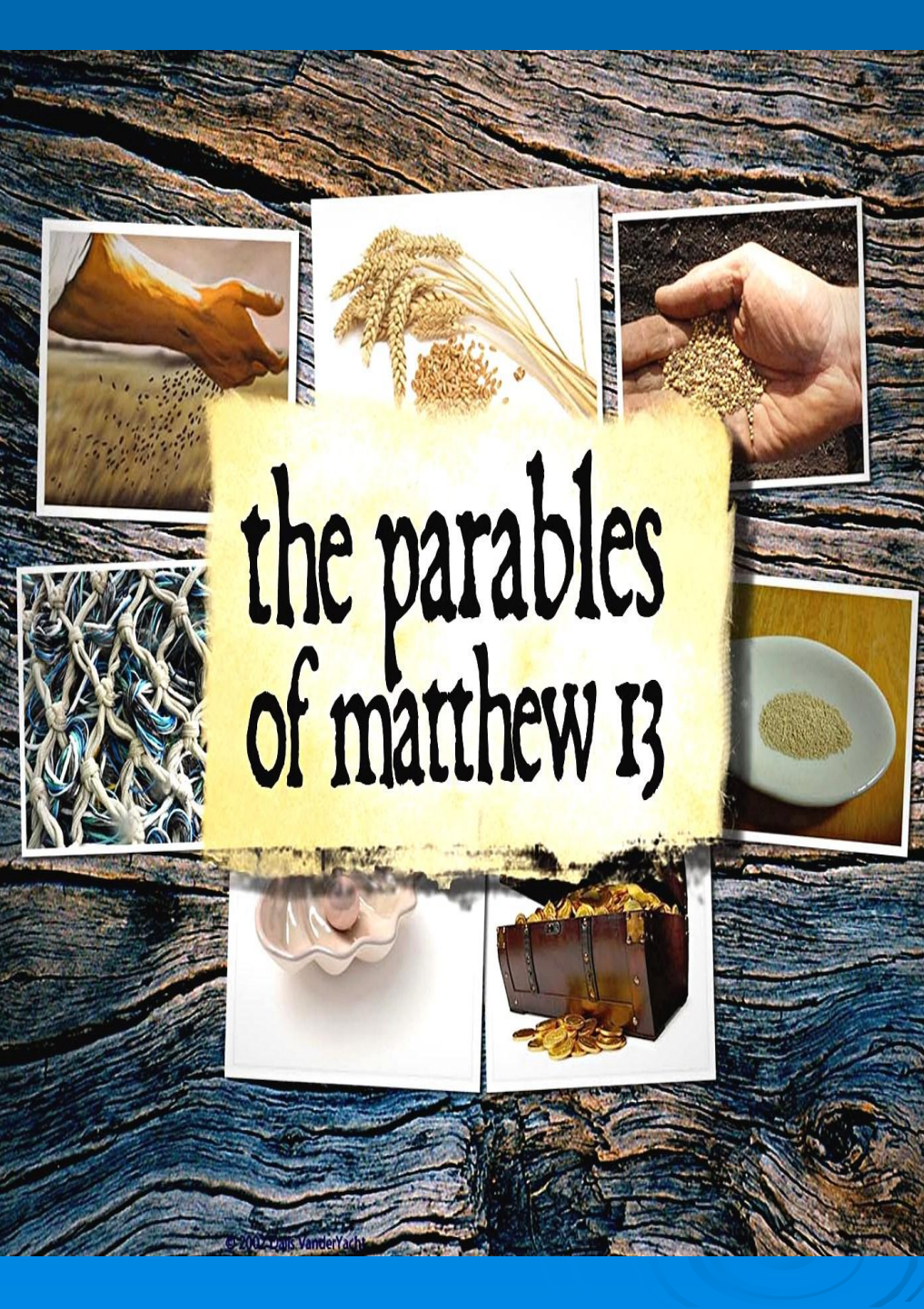


# THE TREASURE AND THE PEARL

- Origen was wrong: the Jewish people were NOT disinherited
- Don't be distracted by the parables' details
- The point of the man and the treasure is that the treasure was worth giving up everything for it
- The aim of both stories: The Kingdom of Heaven is the most valuable thing a person could possess







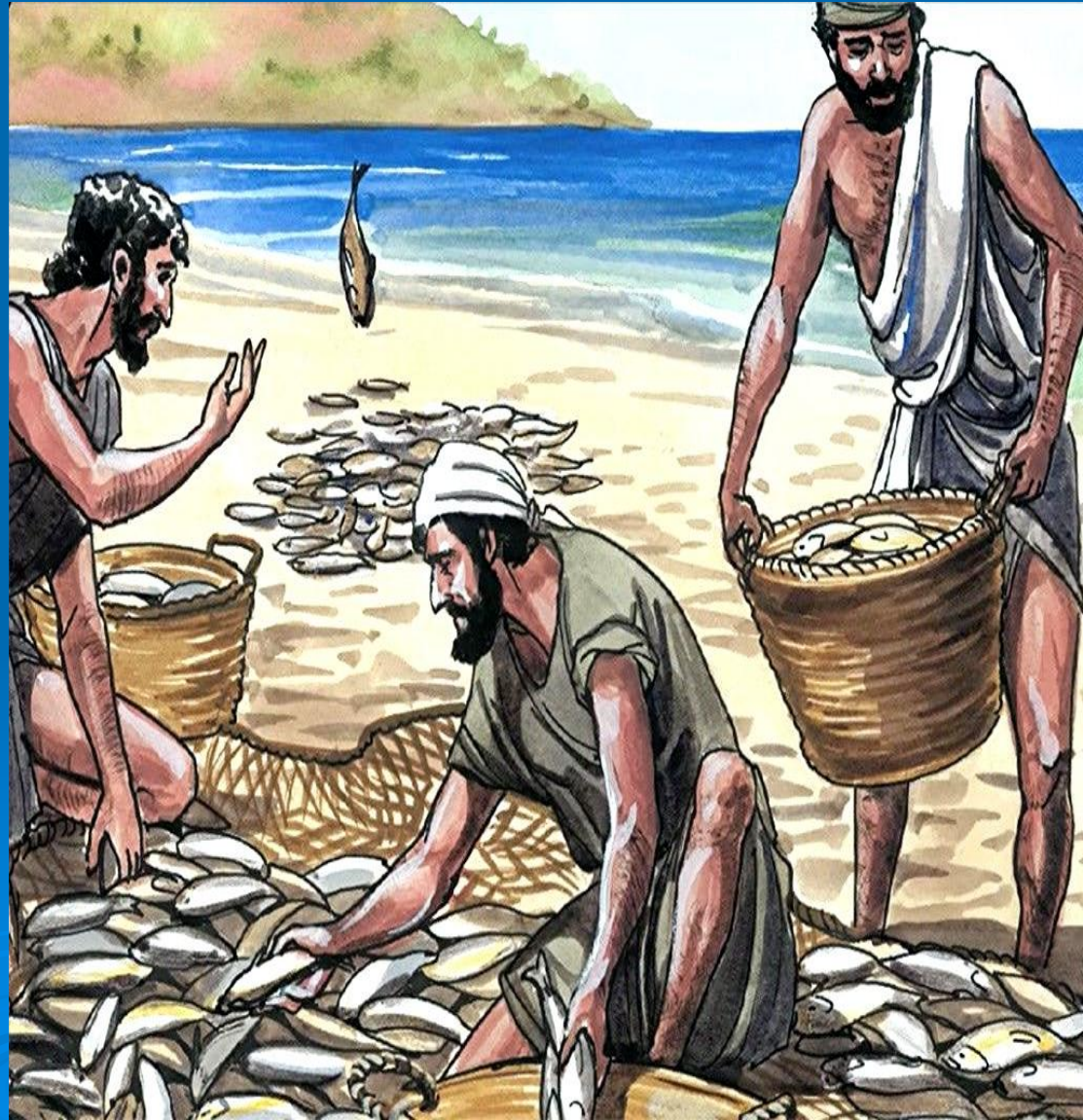
# the parables of matthew 13

- The 4 lessons:
- 1) It's all up to the hearers
- 2) The Kingdom began nearly invisibly but will grow large
- 3) "Weeds" will grow up with the "seeds". God will wait until the harvest to separate them
- 4) There is no price too high to pay for the Kingdom of Heaven



# SEPARATION AT THE END OF THE AGE

- Similar to the Parable of the Tares
- A “bad fish” is a non-kosher fish
- How a fishing net works is no more important to the story than how a sower sows seed
- The point is that only at The End will the separation of the bad from the good happen, and God will send Angels to do it





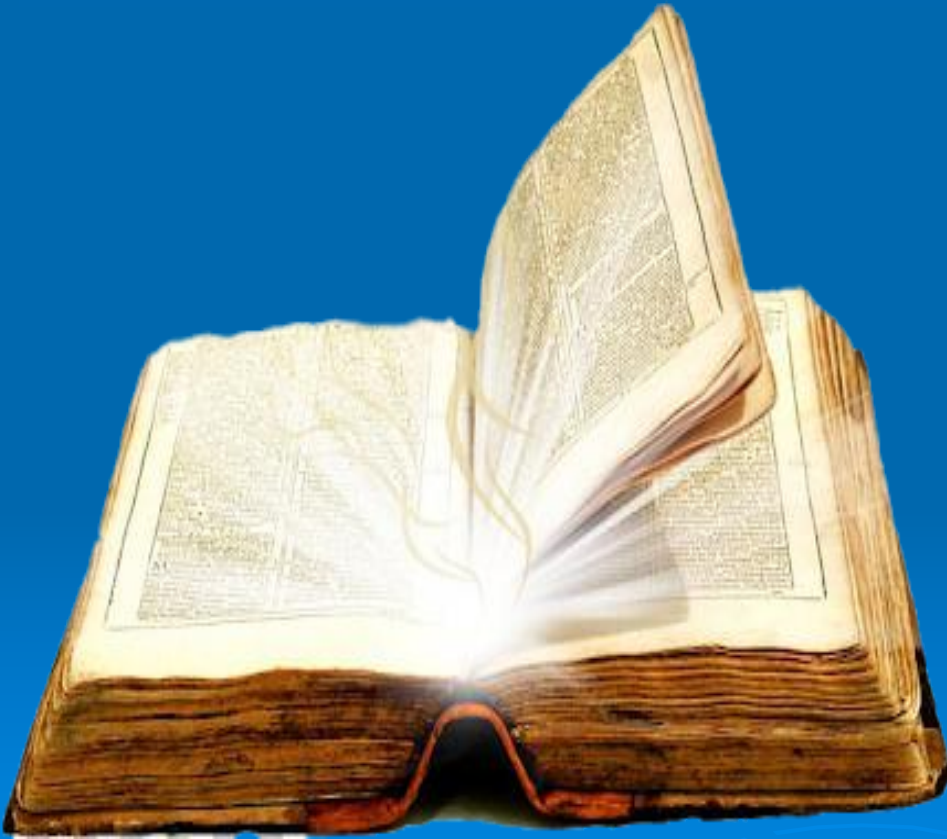


# PARABLE OF THE SCRIBE

- Not about the Kingdom being compared to something else
- Scribe was the official chief synagogue teacher
- Was Jesus saying His disciples were now Scribes?
- Verse says Scribes became disciples of the Kingdom, not that the disciples became Scribes



# STOREHOUSE OF NEW AND OLD THINGS



- The storehouse is representative of the sum total of our knowledge of God
- New things are the revelations by Yeshua about the Kingdom
- Old things are what has been revealed in past times
- The new does not replace the old
- New and old are complimentary, and make revelation complete



# REJECTION AT NAZARETH



- People at Nazareth were dumbfounded by Yeshua's teaching
- They knew His mother, brothers, and sisters
- The people were offended by Him because they were indifferent to the message of the Kingdom
- They didn't question His wisdom or miracles; only their source and even His social status



# THE HEALING AND FAITH CONNECTION

- Yeshua's own family was skeptical of Him
- Jesus was seen as but a blue-collar craftsman in the eyes of the folks of Nazareth
- Was it because their lack of trust blocked Yeshua from doing miracles that He did few?
- Or.... They didn't show enough trust so Jesus decided not to heal them?

