

The Parables

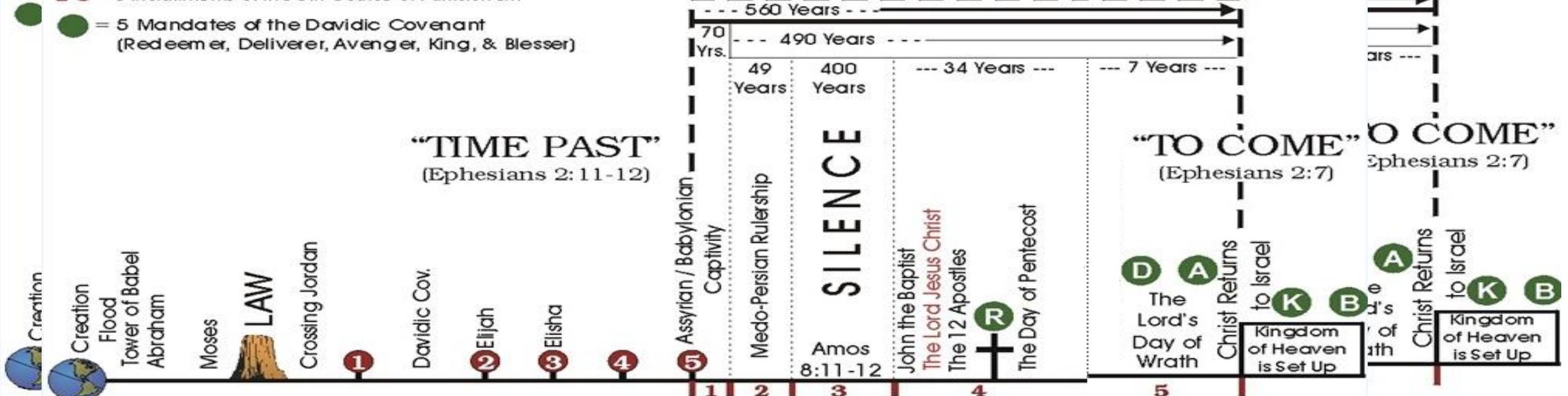
Mat. 13

Pt. 3

GOOD MORNING

- = 5 Courses of Punishment (Lev. 26)
- 1-5 = 5 Installments of the 5th Course of Punishment
- = 5 Mandates of the Davidic Covenant (Redeemer, Deliverer, Avenger, King, & Blessor)

TIMES OF THE GENTILES



ISRAEL - "The Circumcision" - "nigh unto God"

THE LAW serves as a "middle wall of partition."

GENTILES - "Uncircumcision" "far off" "without God"

Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled

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Genesis	Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deut.	Josh.	Jud. Ruth 1 Sam 1-16	1 Sam 16 to 1 Kgs 12	1 Kgs 12 to 2 Kgs 22	2 Kgs 1 to 10:31	2 Kgs 10:32 to 16:20	2 Kgs 17:1 to 25:30	Ezr Neh Est	The Silence of God	Matthew Mark Luke John	Acts 1-8	Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation	Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation	
				1 and 2 Chronicles		Isa, Jer, Lam, Ezk, Dan, Hos, Joel, Amos, Oba, Jon, Mic, Nah, Hab, Zeph, Hag, Zec, Mal.		Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon							

1. The parables reveal what will characterize the interval of time between the 1st and 2nd comings of Christ. God hadn't revealed this to the prophets, but will to the believing remnant, Jesus' generation and brethren. (13:17; 1 Pet. 1:10-12; Is. 61:1-6; Lk. 4:16-21; Is. 53 and 54, Dan. 9; etc.).
2. Another important but overlooked purpose for the parables is that they taught the 12 what it is like to be unknowing, without understanding, outsiders. Without Jesus' instruction, they were just as ignorant of these things as were unbelievers.

3. This empathy will be required in their ministry because this “time” will be a time of change.
 - a. The unbeliever can become a believer.
 - b. Non-fruitbearing believers can bear fruit.
 - c. Fruitbearing believers can bear more fruit.
 - d. And, unfortunately, those who had been bearing fruit may become fruitless.
4. This time would not be black and white, clear-cut, as the prophets might think—righteous/unrighteous; good/evil; right/wrong—but gray and hazy.
5. They were to minister to all to bring in the full compliment of Jews into the believing remnant and those Gentiles associated with them.

7. Various Soils:

- a. Unprepared ground—hardened hearts of v. 15>
- b. Partially prepared—some growth but no fruit bearing.
- c. Fully prepared—growth and fruit bearing.

8. Uses of the Word of the Kingdom:

- a. Don't understand (rejected Jesus' instruction).
Use the word to form counter-doctrines for Satan's use.
- b. Use for short time but leave it to alleviate persecution.
- c. Use for a time but replace it with the things of this world.
- d. Understand (embraced Jesus' instruction) and use the word for God's purposes.

9. And this leads into the next parable where evil and good co-exist.

6. INSTRUCTION AND UNDERSTANDING

Parable of the Sower: Ministry will be carried out in context of a variety of prepared soils.

- a. This is what John, Jesus and the disciples had been doing up to this point but Jesus stops doing this, and the disciples will begin to do again after Christ's death and resurrection, and especially during the Tribulation Period.
- b. It will not be a time of the knowledge of God covers the earth as the waters cover the sea (as the prophets could think--Is. 11:9; Hab. 2:14) but a time of mixed understanding that will need instruction from Christ.

10. REVELATION AND JUDGMENT

Parable of Wheat and Tares: During this time, the children of Satan will be given free reign to work among the children of the Kingdom, and won't be separated until the end of the Tribulation Period. (Mat. 10:24-28)

- a. During this time God will allow Satan's evil world system on earth (kosmos--13:38), which will be destroyed at the end of the age (aion—13:39-40), replacing it with His Own Kingdom and world system on the earth.
- b. Revelation, judgment and separation will not arrive until the end of the Tribulation Period at Christ's 2nd Coming.

11. GRADUAL GREATNESS

Parable of Mustard Seed: The insignificant start to the announcement of the Kingdom (a crucified King and a motely group of followers) that grows into a great Kingdom that will cover the earth. (Mat. 13:31-32; 17:6, 20)

- a. The Greatness of the Kingdom will not come suddenly and all at once, but gradually.
- b. Instruction: Seed refers to Word and Children of the Kingdom
- c. Birds are not mentioned in Instruction for Sower Parable.
The creation Psalm that culminates in the restored Kingdom includes nesting birds and goats (Ps. 104:12-18, 33-35)—even though Jesus excludes devouring birds and disobedient goats from the Kingdom (Mat. 25:31-46)