

PM Service: 14 Jan 2018 GraceLife London – Matthew 13:24-43

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM: INCREASE, INFLUENCE, AND OPPOSITION

1. The Parable of the Mustard Seed: The Kingdom's Increase (vv. 31-32)
2. The Parable of the Leaven: The Kingdom's Influence (v. 33)
3. The Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds: The Kingdom's Opposition (vv. 24-30, 36-43)

Questions for discussions and further study.

1. Christ will have His angels remove everything and everyone who would seek to influence His people to sin (Matt 13:41). How do we in our times maintain a balance of being in the world but not of the world while we continue to have our lives intertwined with sinful people and other things that can influence us towards sin?
2. God's purpose for us is to bring us into the presence of His glory, where we will one day have glorified bodies which will be like Christ. How can we maximize reflecting Christ's glory today while we wait to receive the fullness of it?
3. Knowing the promise of God that although the Kingdom of Heaven had a small, insignificant beginning, it will have an influence, great impact and glorious end, what should be our approach in evangelism even while true Christianity in the UK seems such a minority and now having only a minor impact? How should the future of the Kingdom affect our evangelism? How should it affect our approach to planning for the future?