

Text : Luke 8:4-18

Title : “To you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God” Luke 8:10

INTRODUCTION

1. Invitation to enter into the Kingdom of God
2. Instruction of deeper truths about the Kingdom of God

THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM

1. The Perspective of Matthew

1 On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. ² And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.

³ Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: “Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. ⁶ But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. ⁸ But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

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

¹¹ He 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. ¹² For 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. ¹³ Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:

‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand,

And seeing you will see and not perceive;

¹⁵ For the hearts of this people have grown dull.

Their ears are hard of hearing,

And their eyes they have closed,

Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears,

Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,

So that I should heal them.’

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; ¹⁷ for 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. Matthew 13:1-16

- a) The Kingdom of God
 - i) It is a mystery to many
 - ii) It is not easily comprehended
- b) The Disciples
 - i) They are given a special privilege to learn and to discern
 - ii) If they are faithful in learning
 - iii) Greater things would be entrusted to them
 - iv) But if they prove unfaithful, they can even lose what little knowledge they may have
 - v) They are truly blessed indeed

2. The Perspective of Luke

⁴ And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable: ⁵ "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶ Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. ⁸ But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear! ⁹ Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" ¹⁰ And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.' Luke 8:4-10

- 1. Luke affirms what Matthew has written
- 2. His observations are more succinctly stated

- a) The Disciples
 - i) They will be able to understand the mysteries of God's Kingdom
 - ii) Their knowledge will bring forth fruit

b) The Multitudes

- i) The Parables only remain as stories
- ii) They cannot understand the mysteries of the kingdom of God

A THEOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. ² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³ I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. ⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶ However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, ⁸ which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

⁹ But as it is written:

*“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man*

The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

*¹⁰ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.
1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

1. The Wisdom of God

- a) It is hidden to many (“a mystery”)
- b) It is deep wisdom
- c) It is revealed to the following:
 - i) Those who are mature
 - ii) Those who love God

2. The Power of God at work

- a) Faith
- b) The Spirit of God

CONCLUSION

1. Vital Challenges

- a) To find faith
- b) To grow in maturity
- c) To love God

2. The Results

- a) Wisdom of God would be found
- b) The power of God would be realised