

Parable of the Leaven

Matthew 13:33

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Text:

Matthew 13:33, Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

Commentary:

I. The kingdom of heaven is like a woman who took leaven and worked it into three measures of meal until all the bread was leavened.

A. Leaven in Scripture often represents evil and corruption. Here it represents the spread of the kingdom.

B. The woman may represent the church, the bride of Christ. The church is to take the gospel, the leaven, to the whole world.

C. The number “three” in reference to the measures of meal appears to be incidental. It was customary for women of that day to make three loaves of bread just as it is customary for us to buy a dozen eggs.

II. Representations:

A. The leaven represents the spreading influence of the kingdom of God to the entire world.

B. The woman is the church whose duty it is to take the gospel to the world.

III. The first four parables recorded in this chapter to this point were presented to the multitudes.

A. At this time Jesus went into a house where he explained to the disciples the meaning of the parable of the tares and other related parables.

B. Psalm 78:2, I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old –

IV. Jesus revealed to the sincere members of his audience all they could understand in view of their backgrounds and relationships to his ministry.

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Questions

1. The _____ of _____ is like a _____ who took _____ and _____ it into _____ of _____ until all the _____ was _____.

2. _____ in Scripture often represents _____ and _____. Here it represents the _____ of the _____.

3. The women may represent the _____, the _____ of _____. The _____ is to take the _____, the _____, to the _____.

4. The number “three” may refer to the fact that women of that day were accustomed to baking _____ of _____ just as it is customary for us to buy a _____.

5. The _____ represents the _____ of the _____ of _____ to the _____.

6. It is the duty of the _____ to take the _____ to the whole _____.

7. The first _____ parable presented in this chapter were spoken to _____, but this parable was spoken to the _____ in a _____.

8. _____ 78:2 foretold that Jesus would open his _____
_____ in _____.

9. Jesus revealed to the _____ of his
_____ all they could _____ in view of these
_____ and _____ to his ministry.

10. What are you doing to take the gospel to all the world? _____

