

Spiritual Warfare Series
Parables About the Kingdom of God
(Part 1)

I. Introduction

II. John the Baptist's view of the Kingdom of God

A. Matt. 3:1-2, 11-15 ¹*Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying,* ²*“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”* ¹¹*“As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.* ¹²*“His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”* ¹³*Then Jesus arrived from Galilee at the Jordan coming to John, to be baptized by him.* ¹⁴*But John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I have need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?”* ¹⁵*But Jesus answering said to him, “Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he permitted Him.*

B. Matt. 11:2-3 ²*Now when John, while imprisoned, heard of the works of Christ, he sent word by his disciples* ³*and said to Him, “Are You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?”*

1. “How could Jesus be the bearer of the Kingdom of God while _____ sin _____ and _____ wickedness _____ are still here?”

C. Matt. 11:4-6 ⁴*Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and report to John what you hear and see:* ⁵*the BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM.* ⁶*“And blessed is he who does not take offense at Me.”*

1. A “mystery” → something designed by God from creation but _____ hidden _____ from mankind until the appointed time.

2. The Kingdom of God is to come in _____ two _____ stages!

III. “Mysteries” about the Kingdom of God

A. Matt. 13:3-11, 18-23

1. Men and women can _____ reject _____ the Kingdom of God!

- B. Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43
1. “You mean the Kingdom of God is here, but the evil age goes on?”
- C. Matt. 13:31-32 ³¹*He presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field; ³²and this is smaller than all other seeds, but when it is full grown, it is larger than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that THE BIRDS OF THE AIR come and NEST IN ITS BRANCHES.”*
1. The mustard seed was a proverbial symbol of that which was tiny and insignificant.
 2. “Don’t let its apparent insignificance deceive you! There will be a time when this same Kingdom will become a great shrub!”
- D. The good news of the Kingdom of God is that men and women can be set free from the bondage of Satan!
- E. You must receive Jesus initially, but you also need to be submitting to Him daily!

IV. Conclusion

(Unless otherwise indicated all Scriptures verses are in the New American Standard Version.)