



## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

### Events Preceding the Second Coming of Christ

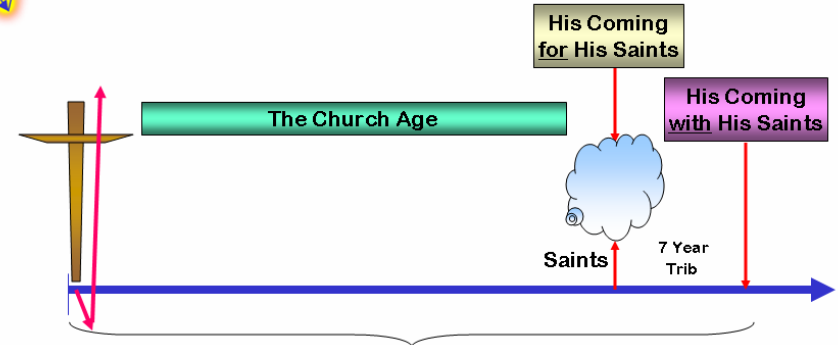
HOMEWORK: READ CHAPTER 45

- 41 The Sabbath and the Lord's Day
- 42 The Gentiles in History and Prophecy
- 43 Israel in History and Prophecy
- 44 Events Preceding the Second Coming of Christ
- 45 The Great Tribulation
- 46 The Second Coming of Christ
- 47 The Resurrections
- 48 The judgment of Israel and the Nations
- 49 The Millennial Kingdom
- 50 The judgment of Satan and Fallen Angels
- 51 The Judgment of the Great White Throne
- 52 The New Heaven and the New Earth



## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

### The Present Age until Christ Comes



- The general character of the present age from Matthew 13



## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

### The Present Age until Christ Comes

- The Seven Parables of Matthew 13
  - parable of the Sower, the Seed and the Soil
  - parable of the Tares among the Wheat
  - parable of the Mustard seed
  - parable of the Leaven
  - parable of the Hidden Treasure
  - parable of the Pearl of great price
  - parable of the Dragnet
- **parable** - parabole(gk) - placing of one thing beside another with a view to comparison (an illustration of a truth)
- **mystery** - knowledge withheld, not previously revealed (Matt.13:35)
- **kingdom of heaven** - God's rule on the earth, embraces any sort of empire that God may have on the earth at a given time



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### The Present Age until Christ Comes

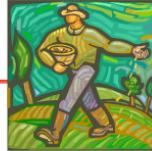
- Guide to interpretation of Parables\*
  - Determine the exact nature and details of the customs, practices and elements that form the material or natural part or the parable ---
  - Determine the one central truth the parable is attempting to teach
  - Determine how much of the parable is interpreted by the Lord Himself ---
  - Determine if there are any clues in the context as to the parable's meaning
  - Don't make a parable walk on all fours ---
  - Be careful of the doctrinal use of parables
  - A clear understanding of the time-period that many of the parables are intended for is necessary for their full interpretation

\* from Dwight Pentecost "Things to Come" page 56



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### The Present Age until Christ Comes



#### • the Sower, the Seed and the Soil

- Some seeds **fell beside the road**, and the birds came and ate them up.
- Others **fell on the rocky places**, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil. --- and because they had no root, they withered away.
- Others **fell among the thorns**, and the thorns came up and choked them out.
- Others **fell on the good soil** and yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.



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## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

### The Present Age until Christ Comes

#### • Tares among the Wheat

- The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who **sowed good seed** in his field.
- his enemy came and **sowed tares** among **the wheat**, and went away
- **the wheat** sprouted and bore grain, then **the tares** became evident also
- Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?'
- No; for while you are gathering up the tares, you may uproot the wheat with them.
- Allow both to grow together until the harvest
  - gather up the **tares** and bind them in bundles to burn them up
  - gather **the wheat** into my barn

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## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

### The Present Age until Christ Comes



#### • Explanation of the Sower, the Seed and the Soils - Matt 13:19-23

- **The seed beside the road** is when anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart
- **The seed on the rocky places**, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away.
- **The seed was sown among the thorns**, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.
- **The seed was on the good soil**, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.

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## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

### The Present Age until Christ Comes

#### • Explanation of the Tares among the Wheat

- The one who sows the **good seed** is the Son of Man,
- the field is the world
- the **good seed**, these are the sons of the kingdom
- the **tares** are the sons of the evil one;
- the enemy who sowed them is the devil
- the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.
- The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father

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### The Present Age until Christ Comes

#### • The Mustard Seed

Matt 13:31-32

- The kingdom of heaven is like **a mustard seed**,
- which a man took and sowed in his field;
- 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

#### • The Leaven

Matt 13:33

- The kingdom of heaven is like **leaven**, which a woman took and hid in three pecks of flour until it was all leavened

#### • The Hidden Treasure

Matt 13:44

- The kingdom of heaven is like **a treasure hidden in the field**, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field



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#### • The Costly Pearl

Matt 13:45-46

- the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding **one pearl of great value**, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

#### • The Dragnet

Matt 13:47-50

- the kingdom of heaven is like **a dragnet cast into the sea**, and gathering fish of every kind;
- when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away.
- So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous, will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.