

PICTURES OF THE KINGDOM

July 3, 1910

Matthew 13 : 31-33, 44-52—*Memory Verse, 44.

Golden Text—The kingdom of God is not meat and drink ; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.—Romans 14 : 17.



31 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field :

32 Which indeed is the least of all seeds : but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.

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

44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field ; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls :

46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind :

48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.

49 So shall it be at the end of the world : the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire : there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

51 Je'sus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things ? They say unto him, Yea, Lord.

52 Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe *which is* instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man *that is* an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure *things* new and old.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Jesus told His disciples a story about the tiniest of all seeds—a mustard seed. When it is planted, it grows and grows, until it becomes such a large plant that birds come and build their nests in its branches. So is it with the kingdom of God, said Jesus. It may be very small at first, but it will keep on growing until it covers the whole world.

Jesus told another story, too, about a woman who was making bread. She put in a little leaven, and it spread and spread until it reached to every part of the bread. This meant that wherever people learned about Jesus, their whole lives would be made better

and happier. In two other stories, Jesus taught that the blessings He had to give were worth more than anything else in the world. One story was about a treasure which a man found in a field, and he was so anxious to get the precious thing, that he sold all that he had, to buy the field in which it was buried. The other story was about a merchant who was looking for beautiful pearls to buy. At last he found one that was larger and more beautiful than any he had ever seen before, and he, too, sold everything that he had in order to get this most precious pearl of all.

One more story He told about fishermen

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.