

# The Parable of the Net

Matthew 13:47-51

## Audience ...

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him ... (Matt. 13:36)

Because Jesus was addressing the *disciples* and not the *crowds*, we know that the parable, while certainly being *about* \_\_\_\_\_, is not *evangelistic* per se.

It is aimed at \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus – both then and now.

## Context ...

<sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field ...” (Matt. 13:44)

“... the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value ...” (Matt. 13:45-46)

In the last two parables, Jesus taught of the incalculable \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s Kingdom. Whether you *stumble upon* it or are *searching for it*, it is worth exchanging \_\_\_\_\_ for. It is \_\_\_\_\_.

But what about those who have no interest in the things of God and no desire for His Kingdom?

## The message:

Jesus employs the familiar image of \_\_\_\_\_ employing a \_\_\_\_\_.

When fisherman bring in their catch, they do not \_\_\_\_\_ it while in the net but wait until they come ashore.

There they \_\_\_\_\_ the good (that which is kosher and alive) and \_\_\_\_\_ of the bad (unclean and dead).

## The meaning:

The passage is similar in theme and message as *the parable of wheat and tares*.

The entire scene – not just the net – is an analogy of the \_\_\_\_\_ Kingdom (The coming Kingdom).

Jesus uses powerful Old Testament imagery of \_\_\_\_\_. See: *Eccl. 9:12; Jere. 16:16-17; Hab. 1:15-17*

The casting of the proverbial net = \_\_\_\_\_.

The net itself = the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

The fishermen = the \_\_\_\_\_ that God will deploy as administrators of His \_\_\_\_\_.

The furnace = the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ judgment of God for unforgiven sinners. (Those “unclean” and spiritually “dead”).

And God himself will be Judge ...

He will \_\_\_\_\_ on His throne

He will \_\_\_\_\_ the people of the world

He will \_\_\_\_\_ His own – the heirs to His Kingdom – from those who are condemned

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (Matt. 25:31-32)

## For us disciples:

We have been sent out as fishers of men, \_\_\_\_\_ the net *now*, because God will \_\_\_\_\_ the net *then*.

There is \_\_\_\_\_ to our mission because we do not know the timing of the end of the age.

God's judgment is \_\_\_\_\_, but his Kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_.

*Do we believe that?*

*This passage unequivocally rules out \_\_\_\_\_.*

*This passage emphatically emphasizes the reality of future \_\_\_\_\_.*

*This passage unequivocally reveals the horrors of \_\_\_\_\_ for those not in His Kingdom.*

## For those who are not disciples (yet):

Since God's judgment is *inclusive* but his Kingdom is *exclusive*, what is your response to the Gospel?

Will you embrace the treasure that God is offering you?

Dr. Paul Thompson  
Calvary Baptist Church  
March 16, 2025

# Sunday, March 16

## 10am Worship

*How Great Thou Art*

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Confession..... Dan Tankersley  
Psalm 96:7-13

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength! <sup>8</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! <sup>9</sup> Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! <sup>10</sup> Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.” <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; <sup>12</sup> let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy <sup>13</sup> before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

*I Lift My Hands*

*Lamb Of God*

Responsive Reading, Heidelberg Catechism..... Dan Tankersley

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Thanksgiving for His Grace..... Dan Tankersley  
1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>18</sup> knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

Offering

*It Is Well With My Soul*

Message .....Paul Thompson  
The Parable of the Net  
Matthew 13:47-51

*He Will Hold Me Fast*

Benediction..... Dan Tankersley  
1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

## 5pm Worship

Scripture Reading & Prayer ..... Dan Tankersley  
Psalm 22:27-28

<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. <sup>28</sup> For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

*All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name*

Responsive Reading, *Let Him Take Up His Cross*..... Pew Bible, pg. 1062, Selection 37

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

Corporate Prayer ..... Charles Uptain

Message .....Paul Thompson  
Paul and the Missionary Imperative: The Means, Method, and End of Missions

Lord's Supper

*Facing A Task Unfinished*

Members Meeting

## Spring Missions Offering

Half of our offering will go towards the North American Mission Board’s Annie Armstrong Offering supporting missions and church planting throughout the United States, Canada and U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa. The other half will go to support Calvary’s own direct efforts at church planting, re-planting, and revitalization of dying churches.

We believe that healthy, biblically-faithful, gospel-centered churches plant churches, and your generous gifts will help enable that!

Our goal is \$100,000.00.

May God be glorified in our faithfulness!

## Volunteers Needed for Bereavement Ministry

In times of loss, one of the most meaningful ways we can support each other is by offering care and comfort. We invite you to join us in providing a meal for a family of church members on the day of a funeral. This is a tangible way to serve our church family and show God’s love in their time of need.

We will work with the church member's Life Group class to help provide this meal. Some classes may need additional help with hosting or providing a side dish. If you are able to be a hostess and receive the dishes or provide a side dish, we would greatly appreciate your help. Call the church office or email joyce@calvarydothan.com if you’d like to participate. Thank you for being a part of this beautiful expression of care.

## Members Meeting

**Sunday, March 16 | 5pm Worship**

All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting during the 5pm worship service.

## Senior Adult Mid-month

**Thursday, March 20 | 11am | Parlor**

Sherrill Tillery will be speaking. Lunch will be served immediately following the service.

## Women in the Mission of God Event

**Monday, April 14 | FBC Dothan | 5:30-7:30pm**

**Cost: \$10 (includes dinner) | Deadline: April 9**

SABA Women, in partnership with Alabama Baptist Women, is thrilled to host Catherine Renfro for this powerful equipping event. Together, we’ll dive into what it means to know Jesus and make Him known through everyday evangelism and Gospel conversations. God is moving in the hearts of women around us, and this is an incredible opportunity to connect, grow in our faith, and discover how we can make an impact where we live, work, and play. Register online at sabachurches.com.

## VBS 2025: The Wonder Junction | June 9-13

Howdy, partners! Save the date and saddle up for an unforgettable adventure at the Wonder Junction, where kids will marvel at Jesus and learn to live for His glory!

## I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

### My Decision Today:

I trusted Jesus as Savior.

I’d like to join Calvary Baptist Church.

I believe God is calling me into ministry/mission.

Please have a pastor or elder contact me.

If you would like to speak with someone about one of the items noted above, please visit the Next Steps Kiosk before you leave today.

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

Pastors & Prayer Team Only

Churchwide



# Connect Card

March 16, 2025

Please complete this tab, tear it off and drop it in an offering plate, or in the boxes by the exits.

- Please update my information
- Please contact me about membership

### I am a:

- First Time Guest
- Attender
- Member

Name

Address

City

State/Zip

- Male
- Female

- Married
- Single

Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Spouse

Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

### Children:

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Name / Date of Birth

Please complete the additional information on the back of this tab, if applicable.

## March 16, 2025

### March Missions Spotlight

**Jose and Areli Perez (Missioteca/Global Mission Partner)**

Missioteca is a collection of missional initiatives dedicated to eradicating theological famine in the Global South. The mission work of Jose and Areli through Missioteca involves walking alongside local churches in Guatemala to help them become healthy churches. If you would like to know more about the mission work of Missioteca or the Perezes, visit [missioteca.org](http://missioteca.org) or email Jose at [jose@missioteca.org](mailto:jose@missioteca.org). Also, if you would like to know how to pray for the Perezes, pick up a prayer card at the missions kiosk in the Fellowship Center foyer.

**Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries (Local Missions Partner)**

The purpose of Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries is to protect, nurture, and restore children and families through Christ-centered services. The result we desire to see is hope and wholeness for children and families through knowing God. If you would like to know how you can pray for the ministry work of the ABCH, pick up a prayer card at the missions kiosk located in the Fellowship Center foyer. To learn more about the ministry endeavors of ABCH, contact Kim McGainey at [kmcgainey@alabamachild.org](mailto:kmcgainey@alabamachild.org) or visit [facebook.com/alabamachild/](https://www.facebook.com/alabamachild/) or [alabamachild.org](http://alabamachild.org).

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901 Montezuma Avenue  
Dothan, AL 36303  
Church Office 334.792.5159  
Weekday Ministry 334.793.9898

### THE PEOPLE CAME...

March 9

Life Group: 493  
10:00 Worship: 637  
5:00 Worship: 149  
Hispanic Church: 103  
Neighborhood Church (NY): 25

### THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund

Given March 9: \$40,269.11  
Given Y-T-D Surplus (Deficit):  
(\$59,498.10) as of 02/28/25

### BIBLE READING PLAN

March 16-22

- Josh 1-2, Luke 1:39-56
- Josh 3-4, Luke 1:57-80
- Josh 5-6, Luke 2:1-21
- Josh 7-8, Luke 2:22-52
- Josh 9-10, Luke 3
- Josh 11-14, Luke 4:1-41

### Sunday Schedule

- 8:30am Life Groups & Open Classes
- 10:00am Worship, Fellowship Center  
Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5,  
Chapel (except 1st Sunday)
- 5:00pm Family Worship, Sanctuary  
Childcare for Babies-K3

### I'm New Here

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today and would love to be able to share more with you about our church.



To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code or you can fill out the Connect Card in this bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

Also, be sure to stop by our Next Steps table in the foyer after the service for a gift from us!

### How to Become a Christian

Want more information about how to become a Christian? Go to [calvarydothan.com/how-to-become-a-christian/](http://calvarydothan.com/how-to-become-a-christian/).

If you would like to view a pdf of today's AM sermon notes, go to [calvarydothan.com/messages](http://calvarydothan.com/messages).

### Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson..... Senior Pastor  
Charles Uptain..... Executive Pastor  
Dan Tankersley..... Discipleship Pastor  
Tommy Perry..... Missions

### STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, March 16:

Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791

Saturday, March 22:

Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765

Sunday, March 23:

Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765

### SERMON SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 23

10am

*The Rejected Jesus*

Matthew 13:53-58

Message by Reagan Farris

5pm

*Paul and the Missionary Imperative:*

*A Tribute to John the Baptist*

Matthew 14:1-13a

Message by Dan Tankersley

### Wednesday Schedule

- 6:00pm Open Classes, D-Groups, Life  
Groups  
Birth-K5, Preschool Bldg  
Grades 1-5, Chapel  
Grades 6-12, Student Room

<sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

– 2 Corinthians 5:10



WELCOME TO  
**Calvary**  
BAPTIST CHURCH