

MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN # 7

"THE DRAGNET"

I. AN ANALYSIS OF THIS PARABLE (Matt 13:47-51)

- A. The net here seems to represent once again the whole sphere of Christendom. It encompasses the wicked and the righteous who will be living when this age comes to a close at the end of the tribulation Period.
- B. The catch of every kind no doubt represents all the different individuals who are a part of Christendom but of which not all are righteous.
- C. The separation of the good from the bad represents the judgment which will come at the end of this age or at the Second Coming of Christ.

II. WHAT WE CAN ANTICIPATE DURING THE COURSE OF THIS PRESENT AGE

- A. We can expect the sphere of Christian profession to be characterized by a mixture of true, as well, as false professors and be mingled with all different kinds of individuals some righteous; some wicked.
- B. We can expect a judgment upon the Gentile Nations at the Second Coming of Christ which will separate the wicked from among the righteous. This is detailed in Matt.25:31-46).
- C. We can anticipate, at that time, those who are unsaved will be cast into Hell (Matt. 13:50). Then the wheat, which represents the saved Jews, and good catch, which represents the saved Gentiles, will be gathered together in the Kingdom which the Lord will establish when He comes.
- D. We as Christians who make up the body of Christ will be taken out of this net at the Rapture (I Thess.4:13-18) and will not go through the tribulation period nor be drawn together as a part of this judgment.

III. SOME APPLICATIONS WE CAN MAKE FROM THIS PARABLE

- A. We should realize once again that Christendom is made up of all kinds of people many of which do not know the Lord and only serve to hinder and hurt the work of the Lord. In our day we have folks who call themselves fundamentalists of the faith while they bring reproach by handling snakes, speaking in tongues, and holding supposed healing meetings. Notice how Antichrist will deceive people by miracles in the Tribulation Period (II Thess. 2:9,10,11; Rev. 13:13,14,15).
- B. We can count upon the fact that God knows His own (II Tim. 2:19) and while many may profess to belong to the Lord, there is a day coming when they will all be Judged for all their ungodly deeds. This will include the religious crowd (Matt 7:21-23); II Tim.3:5); those who rejected the gospel(II Thess 1:8); those who wouldn't believe the truth (II Thess 2:11,12)and all the others who are alive at the Second Coming of Christ.