

The Parable of the Dragnet (Matthew 13:47-53)

- The thrust of this parable is judgment – Jesus’ concern is the fires of hell
- Jesus addressed the subject of hell: place of the damned & Christ haters
- Jesus spoke more often about hell than any other NT preacher
- We live in the age when evil & righteousness grow together in the world

I. The Illustrations (Image) Jesus uses (13:47-48)

- The picture: **“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet \equiv was cast into the sea and gathered some of every kind**
- Fishing, a common way of life: Three kinds of fishing in Jesus’ day:
- First kind: fishing line (Matt 17: 27) 2nd kind casting a net into sea (4:18)
- 3rd kind Jesus addresses here: *Siene*, trolling net 1½ mile wide (large net)
- Key characters: fishermen net sweeps everything up living & dead (48)
- The fishermen separate carefully: separate the good fish from the bad

II. The Main Truth Jesus is Teaching (13: 49)

- Clear picture: this is our Lord’s own interpretation of the parable (49)
- Jesus is warning us about the day when the angels will make separation
- Jesus’ point: no one will escape this day of judgment -- serious warning
Matt 25:31; John 5; Matt 8:12; 21:43; Luke 6:12, 16

III. Jesus Speaks of a Furnace of Fire (13: 50)

- 1) *Hell is a place of unrelieved torment*
- 2) *Hell is a place of unrelieved torment for the body and the soul*
- 3) *Hell is a place of unrelieved torment for the body & soul in varying degrees*
- 4) *Hell is a place of unrelieved torment for the body & soul in varying degrees endlessly*