

## **Parable of the Net**

**Matthew 13:47-50**

## Parable of Dragnet

### Text:

**Matthew 13:47-50, “Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

### Commentary:

#### I. Representations:

- A. The sea is the world.
- B. The net is the church.
- C. The fish of every kind are members of the church.
- D. The good fish are the truly faithful, righteous children of God.
- E. The bad fish are the sinful, backslidden members of the church.
- F. The beach represents the end of the world.
- G. The fact that the net is full teaches that great multitudes will become members of the church.
- H. The sorting of the fish represents the judgment at the end of the world.
- I. The sorters are the angels.

- J. The casting away of the bad fish represents the casting of the wicked into hell where there will be intense punishment.
- K. The gathering of the good fish into the baskets, vessels represents the taking of the righteous to heaven.
- L. Those who cast the net into the sea at the direction of the Captain of the fishing boat (God) are the proclaimers of the gospel throughout the ages.
- M. No fish were taken into the vessel that had not first been in the net (church). No fish jumped directly into the boat.
- N. There are good and bad in the church.

## Parable of the Net

### Questions

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ is like a \_\_\_\_\_ that was let down into the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ all kinds of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. When it was full the \_\_\_\_\_ pulled it up on \_\_\_\_\_. They then set down and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ in baskets, but threw the \_\_\_\_\_.

3. This is how it will be at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ and throw them, the \_\_\_\_\_, into the \_\_\_\_\_ where there will be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of truth.

5. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of every kind are \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ are the truly \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

6. The sorting of the \_\_\_\_\_ represents the \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.

7. The fact that the \_\_\_\_\_ is full teaches that \_\_\_\_\_ will become \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

8. There are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.

9. Can bad fish be turned into good fish? If so, how? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

10. Are you a “fisher of men?” How many fish have you caught lately?

---

---

---

Finished exam can be mailed or dropped off at:  
Mason Street Church of Christ  
2600 N. Mason Street  
Appleton, WI 54914  
920-734-0785