

"THE 41 PARABLES OF JESUS CHRIST"

28 general parables and 13 kingdom of God parables

Parable #17 – "THE TWO SONS"

Matthew 21:28-31,32

The 8th of the 28 general parables

BACKGROUND:

In 445BC, with **one Bible week** equating to **seven years** (a prophetic year being 360 days), God commanded that **seventy weeks** each of **7 years**, would be determined upon Israel, that is ... **70 weeks x 7 years = 490 years** ([Daniel 9:24-27](#)).

This time frame is broken into **four** time periods of (a) **7 weeks** + (b) **62 weeks** + (c) the mystery church age of about 2,000 years + (d) **1 week = 70 weeks** and is explained as follows:

#1. **Seven** weeks of years is **7 x 7 = 49** years ... the time it takes to restore and build Jerusalem from 445BC to 396BC.

#2. **Sixty two** weeks of years is **62 x 7 = 434** years ... the time from the building of Jerusalem in 396BC to Christ being cut off at the cross in 32AD.

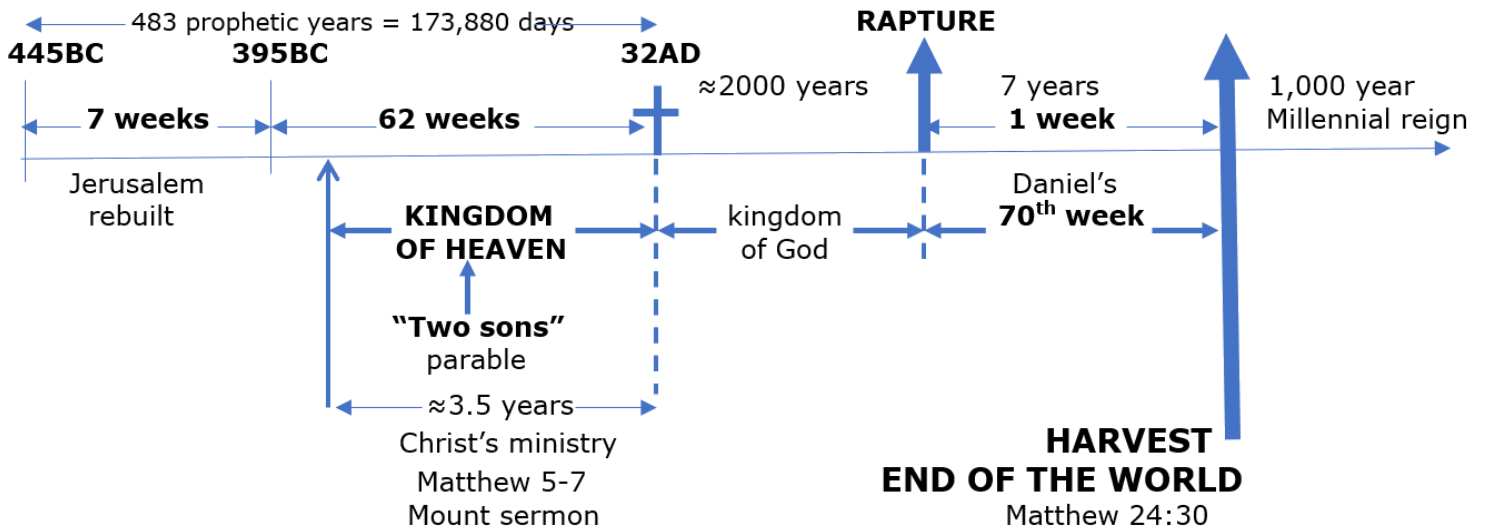
#3. The church age of approximately 2,000 years

#4. **One week** of years is **1 x 7 = 7** years ... this is the seven years of tribulation of God's wrath upon the earth, that takes place after the rapture ... called **Daniel's 70th week**.

The following **Timeline** will help (not drawn to scale):

DANIEL 9:24-27

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city ... from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be **seven weeks**, and **threescore and two weeks** ... after **threescore and two weeks** shall Messiah be cut off ... he shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week** ..."





"THE TWO SONS"

"v28 But what think ye (chief priests)? A certain man had **two sons**; and he came to the **FIRST**, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. v29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward **he repented, and went**. v30 And he came to the **SECOND**, and said likewise. And he answered and said, **I go, sir: and went not**. V31 Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The **FIRST**. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into **the kingdom of God** before you. V32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when **ye had seen it, repented not afterward**, that ye might believe him." ([Matthew 21:28-31,32](#))

Question: How would it be possible for people to go into the kingdom of God, heaven itself, before Christ goes to the cross?

WHO IS THE GOOD SON? The following Table will help:

"Go work today in my vineyard"		
1st son GOOD son	NO  "I won't work" These are the harlots and publicans initially rejecting to work in God's vineyard	followed by YES "I will work" These are the harlots and publicans accepting to work in Christ's vineyard
2nd son BAD son	YES  "I will work" These are the chief priests accepting to work in God's vineyard under Moses	followed by NO "I won't work" These are the chief priests rejecting working in Christ's vineyard

The **first son** are the harlots and the publicans **initially rejecting** the Messiah, If you see it from their point of view, the harlots and publicans were already treated as outlaws from the religion of the chief priests, so when they hear about the priests getting excited about the coming Messiah, this only further drives them away from Christ and his vineyard ... and so it is a resounding **"NO"** from them. But after seeing his wonderful works of his healings and his acceptance of them by eating with them, **they accept him** ... that is, after initially saying NO, they willing say YES to working in his vineyard.

The **second son** are the self-righteous Pharisees and Sadducees ([Luke 18:10-13,14](#)) **initially**

accepting the promise of Christ the Messiah, but then **rejecting Christ** with extreme hatred being jealous of his works, after seeing him eating and associating with harlots and publicans.

Now continuing on, **Christ talks further to the chief priests ...**

v31 "That the publicans and the harlots go into **the kingdom of God** before you. v32 For **John** came unto you in the way of righteousness, and **ye believed him not**: but the **publicans and the harlots believed him**: and ye, when **ye had seen it, repented not afterward**, that ye might believe him." ([Matthew 21:31-32](#))

Here we have Christ in the kingdom of heaven dispensation, talking about the believing Jew's eventual home being the kingdom of God which is in heaven itself.

It is to be understood that the Jew would enter the kingdom of God in heaven, **after** the temporary stopover in Abraham's bosom, should they accept Christ.

The following diagram will help:

SON #1 GOOD

John preaches
the coming of Messiah
to harlots & publicans

initially reject **NO**

Christ comes
kingdom of heaven

accept **YES** to work
to work Christ's
vineyard

Abraham's
bosom

entry

kingdom of God
in heaven

entry

SON #2 BAD

John preaches to
the coming of Messiah
to chief priests

initially accept **YES**

reject **NO** to work
Christ's vineyard

no entry

no entry

We can see that the harlots and publicans **entered heaven, the kingdom of God**, God's kingdom, **before** the chief priests ... unless the latter **repent** and accept Christ with his kingdom of heaven ... which some of them did.

IN CONCLUSION:

It was harlot-publican sinners and not the self-righteous Pharisees that Christ came to save.

Dear Reader, are you a sinner or are you like a self-righteous chief priest with no need of salvation?

Dear Reader, if you have rejected Jesus Christ as your Saviour up till now, change your mind, and be like the harlots and publicans, who afterwards, believed on the Lord Jesus Christ ...
and become a good son.

Furthermore, the bad sons today are those still under the law eg SDA's, Mormons, Catholics and on, who believe you can lose your salvation. Are they aware that ...

*"For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, **Cursed** is every one that **continueth not in all things** which are written in **the book of the law** to do them. 13 **Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law**, being made a curse for us: for it is written, **Cursed** is every one that hangeth on a tree:" ([Galatians 3:10-13](#))*

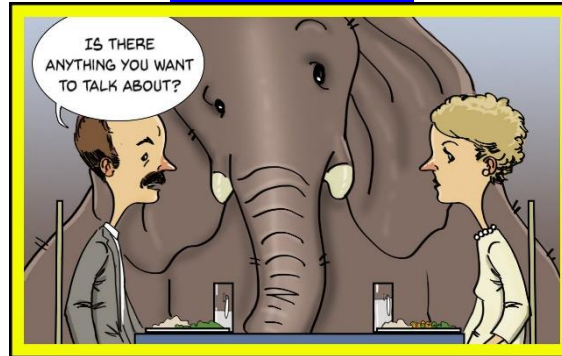
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