I. Kingdom of Heaven or Kingdom Culture!

A. **Kingdom of Heaven** - *Not just geographical place* - The foundational, principal components of heaven; the system or culture of heaven
   1. **Culture** - *Webster* - The set of attitudes, values, goals, and practices of a society, or organization.
      a) **Kingdom Culture** - The set of attitudes, values, goals and practices of the KINGDOM of Heaven.
   2. We are to model our attitudes, values, goals and practices according to those of heaven or the culture of heaven not the popular culture of society.

II. Matthew 13:24-30 - 7 parables about the Kingdom of Heaven

A. **V24** - System of heaven is like sowing seed
   1. **Sowed** - *spĕirō* - To scatter or sow seed for future growth
      a) *Galatians 6:7–9 (NKJV)* 7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. 9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.
         (1) **Lose heart** — *ĕkluō* - To relax; lose motivation to accomplish a goal; become discouraged or give up
      b) **Sowing and reaping a harvest requires:**
         (1) **Intentionality** - Does not happen by accident
         (2) **Perseverance** - We cannot lose heart

B. **V37** - Good seed comes from the Son of Man
   1. *James 1:17 (NKJV)* 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

C. **V25** - While men slept, his enemy came...
   1. **Slept** - *kathĕudō* - Opposite of alert or awake
   2. *Proverbs 24:33–34 (NKJV)* 33 A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest; 34 So shall your poverty come like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.
   3. *1 Thessalonians 5:6 (NKJV)* 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.
4. **Tares** - zizaniōn - False grain; a weed nearly indistinguishable from wheat until the ear appears
   a) **Matthew 7:15–20 (NKJV)** - By our fruit we be known

D. **V38** - What is the field, good seeds and tares?
   1. Field is the world
   2. Good seeds - Sons of the kingdom (Not sons of the church)
   3. Tares - Sons of the wicked one

E. **V26** - The fruit reveals the difference

F. **V27-28** - Jesus sows good seed only!
   1. **Enemy** - ēchthrōs - Hateful adversary, foe, hostile towards

G. **V38** - The “enemy” sows the tares — the devil
   1. **1 Peter 5:8–9 (NKJV)** 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.
      a) **Sober** - nēphō - Not drunk; in control of one’s thought processes
      b) **Vigilant** - gregoreo - To be aware, alert, continually ready
      c) **Adversary** - antidikōs - Accuser, Opponent in a lawsuit
      d) **Resist** - anthistēmi - To stand against; oppose, withstand, be hostile towards
      e) **Steadfast** - stĕrĕōs - Stiff, solid, stable, strong; firm in one’s attitudes or beliefs

2. **Revelation 12:10–11 (NKJV)** 10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.