

Parable of the Sower





**The term “ISRAEL”
is used 2,566 times
in the Bible!**

Matthew 13

- Matthew 13 reveals that during the period of the postponement of the millennial kingdom, God's rule will be exercised in a unique way revealed by Jesus ("mysteries of the kingdom of heaven")
- The parables in Matthew 13 cover the time from Israel's rejection of Messiah until the 2nd Advent of Christ.
- Jesus offered the kingdom (4:17), the nation rejected the offer (12:22–37), and it would be given to a future generation of Israel (21:43).





Considerations before interpreting Matthew 13

- 1) The announcement of the nearness of the kingdom (“at hand” ἐγγίζω *eggizo* – Mt. 4:17)
- 2) Israel’s rejection of Jesus as Messiah
- 3) The Lord’s recognition of Israel’s refusal to accept Him as Messiah

Parables of Matthew 13

Kingdom and King predicted and promised (2 Samuel 7; Daniel 7:13–14)

Genealogy of the King – Mt. 1
Birth of the King – Mt. 2
Herald of the King – Mt. 3
Jesus announces the kingdom – Mt. 4
Sermon on the Mount – Mt. 5–7
“Sons of the kingdom” (nation) reject – Mt. 8
Miracles point to Jesus as awaited King – Mt. 9
Jesus sends out the disciples – Mt. 10
Jesus denounces rejecting cities – Mt. 11
Pinnacle of Israel’s rejection – Mt. 12

Matthew 1–12

Matthew 13 (8 parables)
Parable 1: Why the nation rejected
Parables 2–7: New, unrevealed truths about the period before the kingdom is established
Parable 8: For the disciples (13:52)

Old Testament

Arrival of the King and Kingdom offered

Period of delay (mysteries)

Messianic Kingdom
Kingdom of Heaven (Millennium)

Parable of the Sower



Matthew 13:11

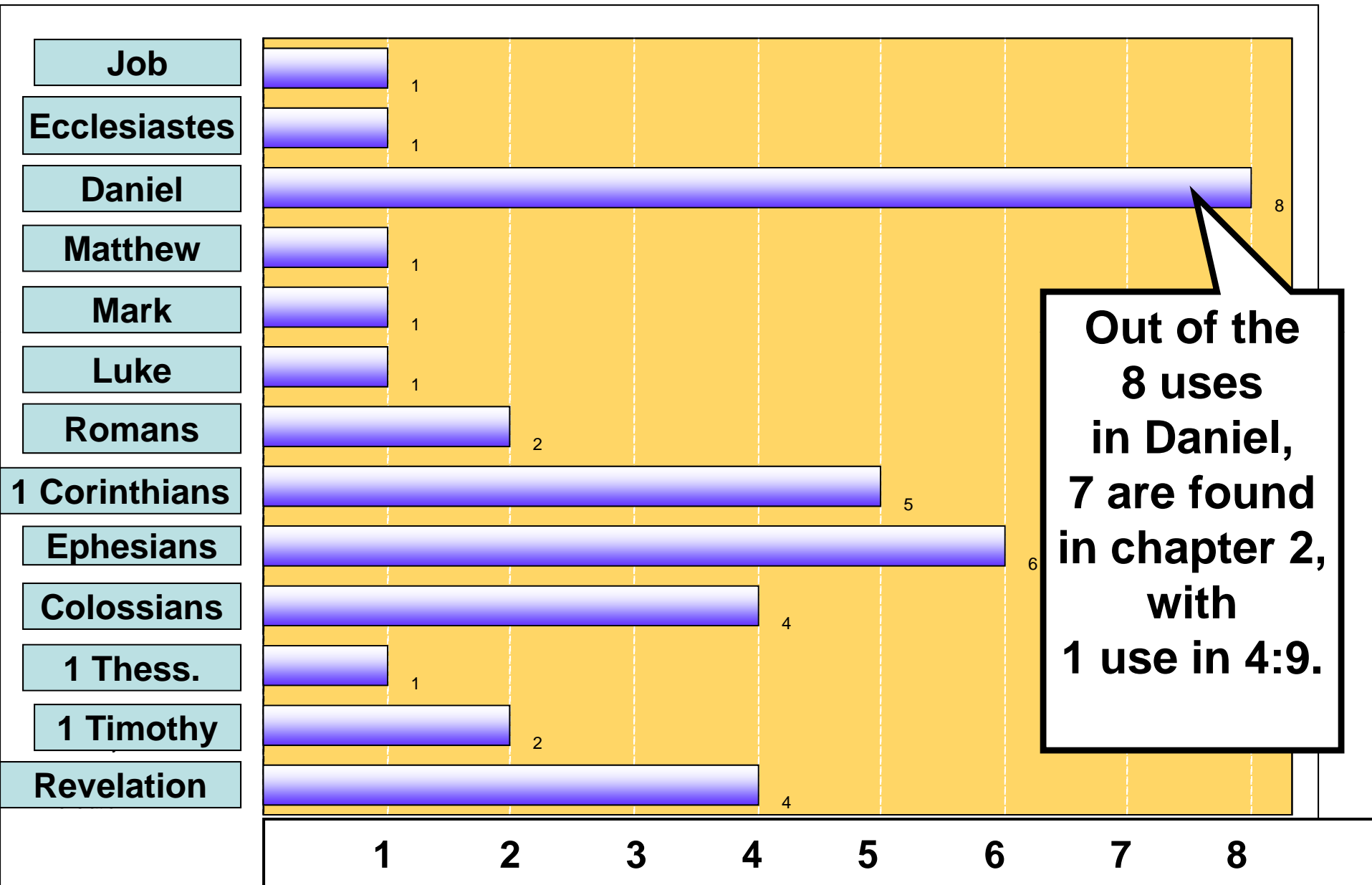
Jesus answered them, “To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted.”

“mystery”

μυστήριον (*mustérion*)

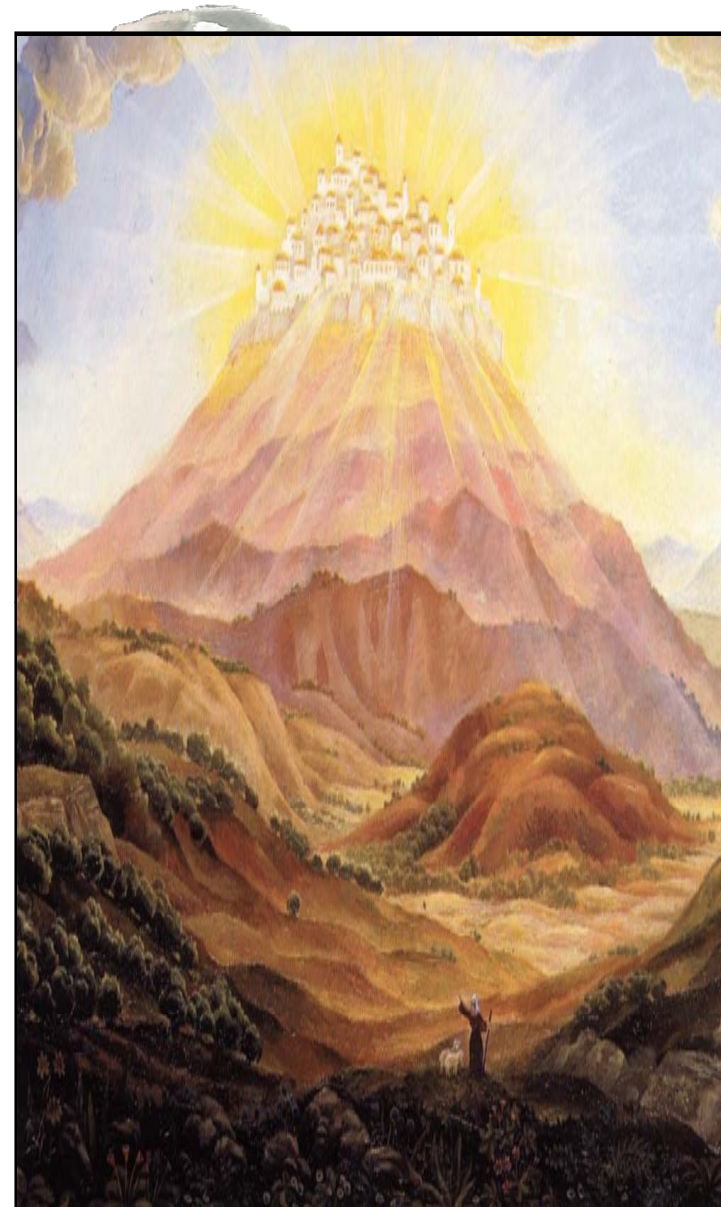
- (I) Denotes something hidden or not fully manifest.**
- (II) Some sacred thing hidden or secret which is naturally unknown to human reason and is only known by the revelation of God (Rom. 11:25; 1 Cor. 4:1; 14:2; 15:51; Col. 2:2; 1 Tim. 3:16; see 1 Cor. 2:7).**

“Mystery” (OT and NT)



Daniel 2

Times
of
the
Gentiles,
Luke
21:24



Kingdom
Daniel 2:35, 44

Matthew 13:11, “Jesus answered them, “To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted.’ ”

τὰ μυστήρια τῆς βασιλείας τῶν οὐρανῶν

The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven

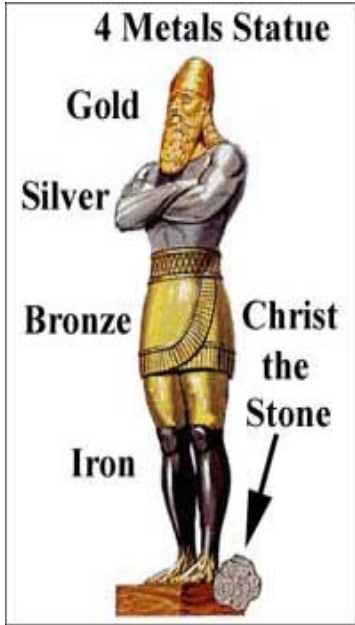
Unrevealed truths concerning the delay period but not a form of the Messianic Kingdom

Millennium
1,000 year
earthly reign

Triune God (Father – Son – Holy Spirit)



**Divine revelation
(Special revelation – mysteries)**



What the Prophets Saw



**Mysteries
(Matthew 13)**

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The prophet Daniel
4 kingdoms of man
Prophecies about the
Kingdom of God / Heaven

Jesus Christ
THE PROPHET
(4th kingdom of man)
Prophecies about the
Kingdom of God / Heaven

**Kingdom
of
Heaven
(God)**

“The context of Matthew 13 is the rejection of Jesus by Israel, particularly the religious authorities. Matthew 13 is the Lord’s response to the opposition, along with instruction to His disciples about His kingdom and the kingdom program.”

Stanley Toussaint

Hosea 6:1

“Come, let us return to the LORD.
For He has torn us, but He will heal us;

He has wounded us,
but He will bandage us.”

“Return” is *shub* (שׁוּב).

Hosea 14:2

“Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to Him, ‘Take away all iniquity and receive us graciously, that we may present the fruit of our lips.’ ”

שׁוּב *shub*