

MATTHEW

September 4, 2022

Matthew 13:47-52

READ

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QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. How does the imagery in this parable resonate with the disciples?

2. What is suggested by “fish of every kind” (v. 47)?

Why must the catch be sorted or separated (v. 48)?

What makes a “good” fish good? What makes a “bad” fish bad?

3. Who are “they” in v. 48 (c.f., v. 49)? Describe their work.

How is this similar to the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares (v. 41)?

4. What, according to Jesus’ explanation, happens at the end of the age (vv. 49-50)?

5. What does it mean that the bad fish are thrown away (vv. 49-50)?

6. At the end of the age, who is removed? Who remains?

How does this fit with the scenario we are often given concerning “the rapture”?

What does this suggest about the *purpose* of “the rapture”?

7. What “treasure” does a disciple of the kingdom of heaven possess (c.f., v. 44)?

8. What are “things new” and “old” in this treasure?

How do they relate to, or complement, one another?

9. What is required of understanding (vv. 51-52)?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

I will seek deeper understanding this week by . . .

I will act on my understanding this week by . . .