

17th Sunday Ordinary Time - Year A

- So – which Gospel was written first? MARK
 - So why is MT the first Gospel in the NT?
 - MT is the most Jewish – Jewish Converts – so transition from OT-NT
 - MT's gospel has a different job – speaking to mostly converted Jews
 - The last line of today's gospel summarizes his goal
 - “KOG is like a head of a household who brings from the storeroom both the old and the new together”
 - The old – Judaism & the new – Christianity
 - Like the dragnet – some things kept, some not.
- MT has Jesus teaching in parables for the last few weeks & it continues today
 - KOG is like a treasure found in a field – give up all to get it
 - KOG is like a pearl of great price – give up all to get it
 - KOG is like a dragnet, good are kept, bad are cast aside
 - WATCH THIS – see what MT is teaching them (**and us**)
 - KOG is like a treasure – hidden for a long time (yet still precious) **OT**
 - KOG is like a pearl – hidden for a long time (also precious) **OT**
 - *KOG is like a dragnet*, SERIOUS QUESTION – *what to keep/discard*
 - “what is useless they throw away”
 - *That is what it'll be like at the end* (its what it was like in 1c)
 - NOT AN EASY DECISION
- Early Church was like Solomon in 1st reading
 - “A mere youth, not knowing how to act”
 - God must give them Wisdom – to them - **and to us**
 - There are 2 things going on here:
 1. Things God does – like hiding the treasure or the pearl
 2. Things we do – seeking it out (prayer, scripture, read, discuss)
 - God has already taken the initiate – the treasure is there for us already
 - By our good intentions we discover it
 - AND WE EXPERIENCE REVELATION
 - Nothing else matters – we get rid of all that's useless
 - Drinking buddies, sweethearts, drugs, porn
 - Greed, pride, lust, jealousy, envy, gluttony, laziness, anger
 - Like the Dragnet – what's useless is thrown away – good kept
 - We hold on to Jesus
 - Our destiny is KOG - its the only treasure that matters
 - Rom 8 – Predestined, we are called (will we respond?)
 - Called, we are justified (called by God, justified thru J.)
 - Justified, we are glorified (eternity in KOG)
 - Thus Rom says “All things work for the good for those who love God” ALL THINGS – Alleluia!
 - Treasure is ours – the Pearl is ours – KOG ours
 - Throw away the junk in your life & old onto Jesus