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Msg #2028 Understand All These Things? What The Bible Says Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice After giving the disciples seven parables illuminating the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, "Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea Lord" (Matt 13:51). I have read the parables of soils, tares, mustard-seed, leaven, hid treasure, goodly pearls, and a fish net for fifty years and I don't have the confidence of the twelve. Indeed. I've found ignorance about the kingdom of heaven so prevalent in Christendom that the Bible and I rightfully spend more time addressing it than any other general topic. "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, ... ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt 18:3). "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6). "... behold, the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:21). There is coming a time when Jesus' prayer, "Thy kingdom come", and the Father's promise of "my king upon my holy hill of Zion," will be fulfilled. In the mean time Christians, as good stewards, are to be about their Father's business. Understanding a few things about the kingdom of heaven should cause us to labor. Paul says, "Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ..." (2Cor5:9-10). Labor "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord" (vr.11)... Hey, angels "shall cast (the wicked) into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matt 13:49-50). Labor "For the love of Christ constraineth us" (2Cor 5:14). We should thus labor in the harvest, in preaching, in the word, and in prayer. Labor in "the ministry of reconciliation... we are ambassadors for Christ" (2Cor5:18,20). Don't just wring your hands in this dark day,... labor! An Essay for week #28 Jul 12, 2020 Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs200712.mp3 Copyright © 2020 Good Samaritan Baptist Church, All Public Domain, Freely Copy and Distribute. A weekly 300 word essay- The Penny Pulpit Our mailing address is: Good Samaritan Baptist Church 54 Main St. Box 99 Dresden, NY 14441

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