

# Matthew 13:53

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence.

## Analysis

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**And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables** (Καὶ ἐγένετο ὅτε ἐτέλεσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὰς παραβολὰς ταύτας)—This transitional formula appears five times in Matthew (7:28; 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; 26:1), marking major discourse sections: the Sermon on the Mount, missionary instructions, kingdom parables, church discipline, and the Olivet Discourse. The verb τελέω (teleō) means 'to complete, fulfill, accomplish,' suggesting Jesus systematically completed His teaching agenda.

**He departed thence** (μετῆρεν ἐκεῖθεν)—The verb μεταίρω indicates purposeful movement to a new location and ministry phase. This departure from Capernaum (where the parables were spoken by the sea, 13:1-2) leads to His rejection at Nazareth (vv. 54-58), marking a turning point. Having fully revealed the kingdom's mysteries, Jesus moves toward His ultimate mission—the cross. Geography in Matthew is always theological.

## Historical Context

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Matthew structures his Gospel around five major teaching blocks (chapters 5-7, 10, 13, 18, 23-25), each concluding with this formula. This parallel's Moses's five books (Pentateuch), presenting Jesus as the new Moses giving authoritative interpretation. The departure marks the end of Jesus's public Galilean ministry's most productive phase, after which opposition intensifies and He begins preparing disciples for His death.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How do Jesus's structured teaching discourses demonstrate His intentionality in discipling His followers?
2. What does Jesus's movement from revelation to rejection teach about the correlation between light given and judgment deserved?

## Interlinear Text

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Καὶ ἐγένετο ὅτε ἐτέλεσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὰς

**And it came to pass that when had finished** Jesus

G2532

G1096

G3753

G3588

**Jesus**

G3588

G2424

παραβολὰς ταύτας μετῆρεν ἐκεῖθεν

**parables**

G3778

**he departed**

G3332

**thence**

G1564

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