

# *Introduction to the Parables*

## **Matthew 13:10-17**

<b>A Parable</b>	Is a comparison between a familiar fact and a spiritual truth	
	Used by many people in the Scriptures	Ezekiel 37:1-14 2 Samuel 12:1-15 Isaiah 5:1-7
	Reveals Truth to Honest Hearers	Matthew 13:10-12 Psalm 25:14
	Concealed Truth From the Dishonest	Matthew 13:11-15 Isaiah 6:9-10
	Is a Great Teaching Tool	Memory and Application

### **Lessons to us today:**

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Spiritual Truths Can Be Seen Through Physical Things | Romans 1:20        |
| 2. Parables Require Proper Interpretation               | 2 Peter 3:16       |
| 3. The Lord Really Knew How To Communicate              | Matthew 7:28-29    |
| 4. Christianity Is So Simple, Yet So Difficult          | 1 Corinthians 1:25 |
| 5. We Can Always Learn From God's Word                  | Ecclesiastes 3:11  |

# The Lost Son

Luke 15:11-32



OBJECT	REPRESENTS	SCRIPTURE
Father	God	1 John 4:10 2 Peter 3:9
Lost Son	Erring Child of God	Hebrews 3:13 1 John 2:15-16
Son at Home	Church Members	Galatians 6:1-2 1 John 4:20
Home	Church/ Kingdom of God	Acts 2:47 Hebrews 10:24-25
Foreign Land	Life of Sin	Isaiah 59:1-2 Romans 6:23

## Lessons to us today:

1. The Effects of Sin, Lost Everything But God's Love James 1:15, Ezekiel 33:11
2. Sin Leads to Bondage Galatians 5:1, 4, 2 Peter 2:20-22
3. He Came to Himself (It's foolish to leave God) Matthew 7:24-27, Proverbs 28:26
4. He Found Life Through Humility 1 Peter 5:6, Matthew 19:30
5. Nothing in This World is More Important Than a Soul Matthew 16:26, Luke 19:10

# The Wedding Feast



Matthew 22:2-14, Luke 14:16-24

OBJECT	REPRESENTS	SCRIPTURE
Feast	Joy of those who obey	Matthew 25:20-23 Revelation 21:3-4
King	God	Matthew 22:7 Matthew 23:37-38
Son	Christ	Ephesians 5:22-23 Revelation 21:2
First Invited	Jews	Luke 10:1-9 Acts 14:13
Servants	Gospel Preachers	2 Corinthians 4:7 Romans 10:13-17
Second invited	Gentiles	Romans 1:16 Acts 10:15, 34
Robeless Man	One Unprepared	Revelation 19:8 Titus 2:12

## Lessons to us today:

1. Many are called, but Few Are Chosen
2. Many Answer the Call, But Do Not Prepare
3. God Cannot be Defeated
4. We Must Answer the Call
5. Christianity is the Best Life

- 2 Thessalonians 2:14, Mark 16:15-16  
 Matthew 7:13-14, Matthew 22:11  
 1 John 4:4, Romans 8:28  
 Acts 2:39, Romans 10:1  
 Philippians 4:13, Matthew 6:33

# Growing Seed

Mark 4:26-29



OBJECT	REPRESENTS	EXPLANATION	SCRIPTURE
Sower	Teachers	May not have any idea of how the seed works, but he knows it does	He knows the seed must be sown Isaiah 55:10-11 2 Corinthians 5:7 1 Corinthians 3:16
Seed	Word of God	Condition of the heart, environment or past may affect the acceptance of the truth	It cuts to the heart Acts 2:37, Acts 7:54 It judges our heart Acts 17:11

**Lessons to us today:**

1. Seed of the Kingdom is the Word of God Luke 8:11, Romans 1:16
2. Seed is Indispensable, No seed=No Kingdom 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Ephesians 5:26
3. God's Ways Are Above Our Ways Isaiah 55:9, 1 Corinthians 1:21
4. We Can't Make Seed Germinate, Nor Make People Obey Acts 2:39, Romans 10:1-3
5. First the Blade, Then the Ear, Than The Grain (Growth is Required) 2 Peter 1:5-11,  
2 Peter 3:18

# The Parable of the Tares (Weeds)



**Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

Character	Identity	Description	Scripture
Sower	Jesus, 13:37	The one who gives life	John 10:10 Luke 19:10
Field	World, 13:38	All the field must be planted	Mark 16:15 Matthew 28:19-20
Good Seed	Disciples of Jesus, 13:38	Those given fully to Jesus	Matthew 5:17 James 1:21
Sower of Tares	Devil, 13:38-39	The Deceiver	Genesis 3:1 1 Peter 5:8
Tares	Children of the Devil, 13:39	Counterfeit Christians	John 8:44 Matthew 7:21
Harvest	Judgment, 13:39	When all things come to light	Romans 12:19 John 12:48
Reapers	Angels, 13:39	We will be powerless before them	Luke 16:22 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8

### Lessons to us today:

1. Looks Can Be Deceiving
2. Beware of Whom You Follow
3. We Must Guard Our Hearts
4. Wait Before You Judge Others
5. Not All People Will Be Saved

- 1 Corinthians 5:10, Romans 12:2  
 1 Corinthians 15:33, Acts 17:11  
 Luke 8:11, Philipians 4:8  
 Matthew 7:1, 2 Peter 3:9  
 Matthew 7:13-14, Matthew 25:46

# The Two Sons

Matthew 21:28-32



OBJECT	REPRESENTS	MEANING THEN	MEANING NOW
Father	God		
Vineyard	Church/God's Kingdom		
Son Who Disobeyed	Outwardly righteous But selfish	Chief Priests and Elders of the People	People Who Wear Name of Religion but Fight the Gospel Truth
Son Who Repented	Sinners Who Believe, Matthew 21:32	Tax Collectors and Harlots Who Listened to Jesus	All Sinners Who Obey the Gospel

## Lessons to us today:

1. Keep Your Promises
2. We Are Individually Responsible
3. We Are Not Forced to Obey God
4. Commands Are the Same For All People Today
5. We Should Be Workers, Lifestyle of Obedience

- Colossians 3:9, Ecclesiastes 5:4-5  
 2 Corinthians 5:10, Galatians 6:5  
 Hebrews 5:8-9, Revelation 22:17  
 Mark 16:15, 2 Corinthians 6:2  
 Matthew 21:28, 2 Corinthians 6:2

# The Tenants



**Matthew 21:33-45, Mark 12:1-12, Luke 20:9-19**

OBJECT	REPRESENTS	DESCRIPTION	SCRIPTURE
Vineyard	House of Israel (Isaiah 5:7)	Had Everything Needed to Make Profit	Now is the Church
Husbandmen	Leaders of Israel	Became Selfish and Disobedient	Members of the Church
Owner	God	Provided for Needs	Christ Acts 20:25 Eph 5:22-33
Servants	Prophets	Mistreated More and More	Faithful Preachers 2 Timothy 4:2
Fruits	Justice and Righteousness	Worship, Faithfulness, Good Works	We Must Bear Fruit John 15:8, 2 Peter 1:8
Son	Jesus	God's Special Possession	John 3:16, Romans 5:8

## Lessons to us today:

1. We Must Use God's Gifts Wisely
2. God Will Return In Judgment
3. We Will Be Judged By Our Works
4. Make Sure Your Teachers Follow The Bible
5. Treat Teachers With Respect

John 9:4, Matthew 25:14-30  
 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3, Titus 2:11-13  
 Ecclesiastes 12:14, 2 Corinthians 5:10  
 Acts 17:11, 2 Timothy 3:16-17  
 Hebrews 13:7, Romans 10:15

# The Parable of the Soils



Luke 8:4-15

Mark 4:1-20

Matthew 13:1-23

GROUND	HEART	WHY?	SOLUTION
HARD	STUBBORN	PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS ACTS 7:54	REPENT ACTS 2:37
ROCKY	SHALLOW	SURFACE CHRISTIANITY REVELATION 3:16	STUDY & FELLOWSHIP 2 TIMOTHY 2:15
THORNY	BUSY	CARES & STRESS MATTHEW 6:25-32	TRUST IN GOD PROVERBS 3:5-6
GOOD, FERTILE	OPEN TO GOD	STUDY AND PRIORITIES ACTS 17:11	CONTINUED GROWTH JAMES 1:21

## Lessons:

1. Power of Word
2. Responsibility to Ourselves
3. Philosophy of Evangelism
4. Need to Continue to Grow
5. Grace of God

- Luke 8:11, Romans 1:16  
 Philippians 2:12, Acts 2:40  
 Mark 16:15, 1 Peter 3:1-4  
 Revelation 2:4-5, Philippians 3:12  
 Ephesians 2:8-9, Ephesians 1:3



Nine: The Final Judgment See Also: Faithful and Wise Servant (Lk 12:35-40), Ten Virgins (Mt 25:1-13), Watchful Porter (Mk 13:33-37)

# *Wise and Wicked Servants*

**Matthew 24:45-51, Luke 12:42-48**



OBJECT	REPRESENTS	NEED	SCRIPTURE
Master	God	Coming When He's Not Expected	Matthew 24:35
Busy Servant	Active Christian	Will Be Rewarded According to his Deeds	Revelation 2:10
Lazy Servant	Unprepared Christian	Will be Judged According to His Deeds	Luke 22:34 Matthew 25:29-30

## **Lessons to us today:**

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. We Don't Know When the Lord is Coming Back     | Matthew 24:35, Luke 24:36          |
| 2. Punishment and Reward Are Certain              | Titus 1:2, Galatians 6:7           |
| 3. Don't Give Up Hope Because of the Lord's Delay | 2 Peter 3:1-9, 2 Thessalonians 1:7 |
| 4. Christians Must Remain Active                  | 1 Corinthians 9:27, 15:58          |
| 5. God is Impartial                               | Acts 10:34, Revelation 20:12-13    |

# Talents

**Matthew 25:14-30**



OBJECT	REPRESENTS	NEED	SCRIPTURE
Master	Christ	Gives Us What We Need	Matthew 11:29
Servants	Each Person	Must Be Active	Luke 9:23
Talents	Our Abilities	Differing Amounts	1 Corinthians 12:12-27
Day of Reckoning	Judgment Day	We Must Be Prepared	Matthew 25:13

## Lessons to us today:

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Excuses Will Not Work in the Judgment      | Matthew 7:21-23, Philippians 2:9-11  |
| 2. God Never Requires More Than He Gives      | 2 Corinthians 12:9, Philippians 4:13 |
| 3. Each One Of Us Will Be Judged              | Matthew 24:13, Matthew 25:31-40      |
| 4. Everyone Needs To Do Something             | Revelation 2:10, 1 Corinthians 15:58 |
| 5. Our Talents Increase And Decrease With Use | 2 Peter 3:18, Philippians 3:12       |

# Friend At Midnight



Luke 11:5-13

OBJECT	REPRESENTS	WE SHOULD ASK:	SEEKS (WORKS)
Friend	A Person in Need	In Christ's Name John 16:24, Col. 3:17	More than we ask, But we must work to that end
Home Owner	Uncaring Person	In Faith James 1:5-8	Ask and work for bread Mt 6:11, 2 Thes. 3:10
		Will of God Luke 22:42, Pro 28:9	Pray for Sick and Treat Them Lk 5:31, 1 Tim. 5:23
Father	Loving, Compassionate God	Righteous James 5:16, Proverbs 15:29	Pray for Lost and Teach Them Rm 10:1-3, Mk 16:15
		Forgiving Luke 11:4, Matthew 6:12, 15	

**Lessons to us today:**

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. No One Loves You More Than God Does           | John 3:16, Romans 5:8           |
| 2. God Knows Best                                | Romans 8:28, Proverbs 3:5-6     |
| 3. We Must Be Faithful                           | Revelation 2:10, Hebrews 13:5-6 |
| 4. Prayer Is Not Simple, We Must Work Hard At It | Luke 11:1, James 5:16           |
| 5. Our Compassion Must Reflect God's Compassion  | 1 John 4:19, Matthew 6:14       |

# Lamp Under a Basket (Light)



Matthew 5:14-16, Mark 4:21-22, Luke 8:16-17, Luke 11:33-36

LIGHT		LIGHT	
Has a Purpose	Rm. 10:13-15, 1 Tim. 4:16, Mt. 28:18-20	Affects Others	Matthew 5:14 Acts 26:16-18
Has a Cost	Luke 9:23, Matthew 19:21, Philippians 2:17	Is Quiet and Gentle	Matthew 6:2-4, 5:16 Galatians 6:1
Shines Without Partiality	Galatians 3:26-27, James 2:1-9, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27	Is Useful	Psalm 13:5 Psalm 51:12
Shines Willingly	Hebrews 10:25, 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, 2 Timothy 2:24	Is Revealing	Psalm 119:105, Psalm 119:130 Luke 6:39

## Lessons to us today:

1. Light Always Has a Source of Ignition
2. Light Must Always Have Fuel
3. Light Will Grow Dim Eventually
4. Light is Essential For Life
5. We Must Avoid Darkness

- John 1:9, John 6:68  
 2 Peter 3:18, Philippians 3:12  
 Ecclesiastes 12:1, 2 Corinthians 6:2  
 Genesis 1:3, John 10:10  
 2 Corinthians 6:14, Ephesians 5:11

# The Laborers in the Vineyard



**Matthew 20:1-16**

OBJECT	REPRESENTS	NEED	SCRIPTURE
Householder	Christ	Laborers	Matthew 28:18-20 Acts 18:10
Marketplace	World	Someone to Get Them	John 4:35 Isaiah 6:8
Laborers	Lost	Someone to Serve	Galatians 6:9 Ephesians 6:11
Vineyard	Church	Workers Inside, Not Outside	1 Corinthians 1:10 Matthew 15:13
Reward	Eternal Salvation	No Greater Reward	Revelation 20 Matthew 25

**Lessons to us today:**

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. The Church Needs Workers, Not Idlers or Bosses      | Colossians 1:18, Luke 9:23         |
| 2. We Must Be Hired While It Is Still Day              | Ecclesiastes 12, 2 Corinthians 6:2 |
| 3. Not Everyone Will Be Saved                          | Matthew 7:13, Revelation 20:15     |
| 4. We Are Responsible For Ourselves                    | Matthew 7:1, Matthew 16:27         |
| 5. The First Shall Be Last And The Last Shall Be First | Matthew 20:28, John 13:16          |