

RIVERVIEW ACADEMY

Truth  
Plainly  
Hidden



# Parable



Introduction to the  
Parables

1. Nathan Came to Deliver the Word of the Lord
2. Similarities Between Real Life and The Parable
3. God's Response

- our sin must be confronted & confessed
- our sin has consequences
- creates in us a new and clean heart
- relationship restored; "And the Lord loved him"



The OT prophets used parables:

1. \**Nathan*- The stolen sheep 2 Samuel 12:1-9
2. *Ezekiel*- The Eagles and the Vine - Ezekiel 17:2-10
3. *Jotham*- Trees Making a King - Judges 9:8-15
4. *Isaiah*- The Wasted Vineyard - Isaiah 5:1-7
5. *Samson*- Strong Bringing Forth Sweetness - Judges 14:14

## **Jesus the Teacher**

1. Greatest *teacher* to ever walk the earth.
2. God made man (John 1:14)
3. A master peripatetic (from Greek word *peripatetikos*) which means '*given to walking around*'.

## Jesus' Authority

1. Authority- (from the Greek word exousia) or power.



Parable: A simple story used to illustrate a *moral* or *spiritual* lesson, as told by Jesus in the Gospels.



“Parables make the things of God “more plain and easy” to those willing to be taught, and “at the same time more difficult and obscure to those who [are] willfully ignorant.”

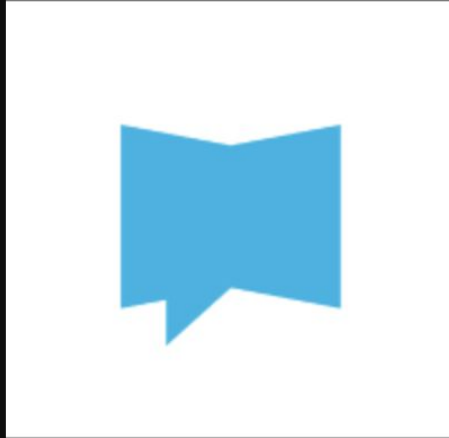
-Matthew Henry

Allegory- a *story, poem, or picture* that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one.

Fable- a short story, typically with *animals as characters*, conveying a moral.

Parables- are true to life and *usually* only teach one basic truth.

“Interpreting the parables of Jesus as short, moralistic lessons can cause problems. Instead, we should see these stories as important ways that Jesus communicated how he was bringing the Kingdom of God.”



Jon Collins - Bible Project

Matthew 13:13-15 *“This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.*

1. *Stories and illustrations.*
2. Parables bring a *deeper understanding* of the things of God.
3. Parables are instruments of *concealing* and *obscuring* the mystery of the kingdom of God.

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***Para***= *alongside*

***bolē***= *to throw or cast*

***apo-*** ‘*un-*’      ***kaluptein-*** *to cover*

# True Parables

- Uses examples from daily life
- Everyone acknowledges the truth conveyed



# Story Parables

- Event that happened in the past
- Usually as the experience of one person

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# Illustration Parables

- Example stories
- Designed to be imitated or avoided
- Focus is on the *character* or *conduct* of the individual.

BREAKOUT!

Parable	Type
<u>Parable of the Farmer Who Scattered Seed (Sower)</u> (Matt. 13:1-8, Mark 4:1-9, Luke 8:4-8, 11-15)	
<u>Parable of the Wheat and The Weeds</u> (Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43)	
<u>Parables of the Hidden Treasure, Fine Pearl &amp; The Fish Net</u> (Matthew 13:44-50)	
<u>Parable of the Lost Sheep</u> (Matthew 18:10-14; Luke 15:4-7)	
<u>Parable of the Unforgiving Servant</u> (Matthew 18:21-35)	
<u>Parable of the Tenants</u> (Matthew 21:33-40; Mark 12:1-9; Luke 20:9-16)	
<u>Parable of the Marriage Feast &amp; Great Banquet</u> (Matthew 22:2-13; Luke 14:16-23)	
<u>Parable of the Ten Virgins</u> (Matthew 25:1-13)	
<u>Parable of the Two Sons</u> (Matthew 21:28-30)	

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<u>Parable of the Farmer Who Scattered Seed (Sower)</u> (Matt. 13:1-8, Mark 4:1-9, Luke 8:4-8, 11-15)	True
<u>Parable of the Wheat and The Weeds</u> (Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43)	Story
<u>Parables of the Hidden Treasure, Fine Pearl &amp; The Fish Net</u> (Matthew 13:44-50)	True
<u>Parable of the Lost Sheep</u> (Matthew 18:10-14; Luke 15:4-7)	True / Illustration
<u>Parable of the Unforgiving Servant</u> (Matthew 18:21-35)	True / Illustration
<u>Parable of the Tenants</u> (Matthew 21:33-40; Mark 12:1-9; Luke 20:9-16)	True
<u>Parable of the Marriage Feast &amp; Great Banquet</u> (Matthew 22:2-13; Luke 14:16-23)	True
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<u>Parable of the Two Sons</u> (Matthew 21:28-30)	Story/illustration

# 4 Classes of Parables

Class A- reveal a *pattern* of completed transferral of object to receiver.

Class B- Emphasize a *negated* act.

Class C- Reveals two equal but *opposite forces*.

Class D- Reveal the *consequences* of oppositions between the two group identified in class C.

## Why did Jesus speak in parables?

- i. They are *effective* and *memorable*
- ii. They are a blessing to those with willing ears.
- iii. To “provoke the *imagination*”.

# The Rich Man and Lazarus

1. Is it an actual parable, or a true story?
2. Can Heaven be seen from Hell?
3. Does wealth make a difference between the two?
4. Are those in Heaven aware of the sufferings in Hell?
5. ?

Lazarus = “God has helped”

# Does Wealth Make a Difference?

Wealthy and not so bad.....

1. Job
2. Joseph (later years)
3. Solomon (early years)
4. Joseph of Arimathea
5. Theophilus
6. Philemon

Poor and not so good....

1. Joseph's brothers
2. The nine lepers (one turned back)
3. Thief on the cross
4. Roman soldiers (low social class)

But you are brought down to Sheol,  
to the far reaches of the pit.

Those who see you will stare at you  
and ponder over you:

‘Is this the man who made the earth  
tremble,  
who shook kingdoms

Isaiah 14:15-16

Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from.

Luke 13:26-29

Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out.

And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

# Breakout

1. Main Character
2. Short imagery that conveys a larger picture
3. Must fall into one of the three types: True, Story, or Illustration

Like a torch carried by a man walking in the dark. Unlit, he stumbles around, running into walls and falls into trouble. But lighting the torch to illuminate his way, the man sees and is able to navigate through life's obstacles. So sacred scripture is to the one who hears and understands the true message of the gospel. Do you have ears?