

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #1**

#### **Introduction:**

#### **1- What should be the Christian attitude towards the world and its cultures?**

#### **Five kind of Christians attitudes towards the cultures today:**

1. These who see the world and its culture as a threat 1John 2:15-16
2. These who see that the Christian should join it 1Cor 9:20-21
3. These who see that we should ignore it 1Cor 7:31
4. These who see that we should fight it
5. These who see that we should build on it John 3:16

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #2**

#### **Introduction:**

6. Read Matthew 13:1-23

At the beginning of Matthew Chapter 13, we find Jesus setting by the sea side and great multitude gathered together, so many, that in order for all to hear him, he went into a ship and spoke to them from the ship. Please note the parable that he told them was the parable of the sower and when he was finished, the disciples ask him,

Parables means: a story, a proverb, a comparison, or comparing one thing with other, a similitude

#### **1- Why do Jesus speak to the people in parables? V.10**

Read: V. 11-17; Ps78:1-7

#### **2- “Parable the Sower and the Seed” Matthew 13:3-9; 18-23**

**Sower (farmer, gardener) = God Seeds = Word or Son of God, Soil = People’s Hearts**

**a- What do the four Soils that the seeds fell on symbolized? V.3-9**

**b- What are the nature of the Soil (Hearts)? Which one is describing you?  
V.18-23**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #3**

**Introduction**

**What would come of the kingdom of heaven?**

**1- How is the kingdom of heaven like Muster Seed? Matthew 13:31-32**

**2- How is the kingdom of heaven (Christian believers) like leaven? Matthew 13:33-35 / Galatians 5:9 / Acts 20:29-30**

**3- How is the kingdom of heaven like treasure ? Matthew 13:44-46**

## Parables of Jesus Lesson #4

**Introduction:** Read Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43

### How God rules his kingdom?

God rules his kingdom by Love, joy and peace

- He is omnipotent, Omnipresent: Where can I go from you Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go to heavens you are there; If I make my bed in the depths, you are there. Ps139:7-8/
- Omniscient (Rev2:23) Rom8:27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the spirit, because the spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will
- Eternal (Ps90:2, Rom1:20)For Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature...
- God is Love (1John4:9) Holy (Isaiah6:3); (1Peter1:15-16)/ Truth and Wise (Matt10:18)/ Merciful (Isaiah56:5) (Lamentation3:22-23)/ Faithful (Ps102:25-27) (Heb13:8) etc.

This parable reveals that Satan will be active through his own throughout this present age. He will seek to prevent the Word of God that is being sown from coming to fruition and will remain active until the end of the age. Satan rules his kingdom by fear and by deceive people. Since Christ through the sons of the kingdom (Matt 13:38) is active in the world sowing the Word of God.

### 1- What will be Satan's activity during the course of this age?

(Acts 20:28-31)

I need you to discover the work of evil today?

- False teachings: **1John** 1-Walk in the light 2-obey the commands (Love) 3- Do not love the world 4- Warning against the antichrist 2:18 5- test the spirits 6- Faith in the son of God.Cults: Jehovah witness, Mormons, Science church, New age etc.
- Works (manifestations) like the terrorism today/ Witchcraft and others
- Religions there is 99 names in Islam but don't have the name "Love"

**2- Who are the dangerous people in your congregation and mine?** ( Not to us and our ambitions, but to our Lord. Before we list them, be careful. We may be among them ourselves)

The church of Jesus Christ is made up of inside-outsiders and inside-insiders

First is in the church but outside a deep, intimate relationship with Christ. Believes that Jesus Christ is the savior of the world but has never come to know Him as the Lord of his life

Second is inside the church and inside a personal relationship with Christ. He was no longer running his own life.

**3- The point is simply that the devil is going to bring forward people (whether in the church or out of it) so much like true Christians.**

**If the devil is mixing his people in among true Christians, then what we should do?**

1- Be alert to that fact 2- No one should take comfort in sin 3-pray and study His word

**4- Describe the attitude of Christ toward sinners. What attitude are we to have toward them?**

**5- Who are the reapers in the parable Mt.13:39? What other scriptures show that to be true?**

**6- What kind of people will the angels remove from the kingdom Mt.41,42 where will those people be placed? What will be their reaction to that place?**

**7- What will happen to believers after the final judgement? V.42**

**8- What did Jesus mean by the phrase “...Who has ears to hear, let him hear”? V.43**

**Parables of Jesus**  
**Lesson #5**

**Introduction:** Read Matthew 13:47-52/ Matthew25:31-41/ John5:25-29

At that time there will be a judgement to separate the sons of the kingdom from the sons of the evil one.

This separating judgement will be explained in parables of fishing net.

**1- What two things did the Lord emphasize in V.47**

**2- Why did Jesus teach the parable of the dragnet? Jh 5:40**

**Give 2 reasons**

1-

2-

**3- How does God feel about seeing the wicked die? Support your answer with scripture Mt25:13/ Matthew9:35-38/ 2peter 3:9/ 1Tim2:3-4**

**4- What happens to unbelievers when they die? What will happen to them in the future? John5:25-29/ Rev.20:11-15**

**Parables of Jesus**  
**Lesson #6**

**Introduction:** Read Luke 16:19-31/ Luke 12:13-21

The Pharisees' love of money was so deep-rooted in both their theology and their practice that Christ spoke a second parable in this context in order to correct the misunderstanding of His disciples and to instruct them in the proper evaluation of money.

**1- What is the result of giving oneself to the pursuit of material possessions?  
And what is the danger of serving money?**

**2- What is the moments after death?**

**3- What is hell?**

**4- What is Death?**

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #7**

**Introduction:** Luke 15:1-10/ Matthew.18:12-14

**Does God know? Does He care? How can He concerned about billions of people? Who am I that God would care about me?**

God's autobiographical answer to us through His Son astounds us. The parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin communicate with undeniable vividness that God is concerned about the lost, cares about individuals and is consumed with an active, seeking love for you and me.

Jesus, the master teacher, answers our questions by asking questions, first about a lost sheep and then the lost coin.

The most obvious similarity among these 2 parables is that in each something has been lost. In the first a sheep is lost, in the second a coin . This is speaks of our miserable condition apart from God.

**1- What kind of shepherd would leave ninety-nine sheep in an open pasture to search for one gone astray? Why is one so important and valuable? Luke 15:4-5**

Read (David prayed Ps.23)/ Ps.100:3/

**2- What is the relationship between Shepherd and his Sheep and the woman and ten silver coins? Luke 15:8 Read Isaiah 40:11/ John 10:11-14**

**3- What does it mean to be lost (you and me)? What our God is like when He found the lost person or how he relates to the lost? Luke 15:6,7,9,10**

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #8**

**Introduction:** Read Luke 15:11-31

- **The first parable,** Jesus personalized the parable by saying “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them” V.4 The Lord caused each of his hearers to immediately take personal interest in what was in value to the one who had suffered a loss.
- **The second parable,** The coins may have been the bride’s dowry that she had been given at her wedding. The loss of one of the coins would suggest unfaithfulness that such a bond entailed. The coin was sufficient value that the labor was considered worth-while. In both parables Christ revealed that God diligently seeks sinners.
- **The third parable,** will not understood unless the emphasis is placed on the father, who is mentioned twelve times in the story. Jesus continue to reveal the attitude of God toward sinners. God is dealing with human being that has his own will and freedom. father more or less in a hopeless position so far as the salvation of a person is concern. He longs for his son’s return, but he does not seek him out. He holds forth no inducements.

**1- What are the steps that young son took away from his father? V.11-16**

**2- What are the steps that young son took back to his father? V.17-24**

**3- What father’s attitude was towards his son? V.20-23,**

**4-What was wrong with the older son? V.28-30**

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #9**

**Introduction** Read Matthew 22:1-14

**Why did Jesus tell them this parable of the wedding banquet? Mtt21:45-46**  
When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

During this period in His ministry Christ had to face the reality of His rejection even though the covenanted kingdom had been offered and that offer by both His words and works. The leaders influenced the nation to reject both Christ's person and offer. As a consequence Christ was no longer publicly offering the kingdom but was announcing its postponement and telling of the severe judgment that was to fall on the nation.

The thing Jesus wanted to communicate was that the people's longing for the Messiah was not authentic. Pride and religious self-sufficiency made it impossible for them to recognize Him when He came and to follow Him with obedience and commitment

**1- Who prepared a wedding banquet? V.2**

**2-Who had been invited to the wedding? V.3-7**

**John1:11-13**

the bridegroom friends, the first invitation was given at the time of the betrothal. It was sent out to those who had previously been invited. This second invitation announced the date for the wedding and the wedding banquet.

In Christ's symbolism of the parable, those who had been invited refer to the nation with which God had made a covenant, promising them a Messiah who would institute the kingdom of peace and righteousness in which they were privilege to have a part.

The respond of the guests to this second invitation was quit unexpected, for they refuse to come.V.3

The second shows the gracious of the host, may not understood the urgency of the second. Invitation. So he sent more servants to inform the invited guests that the dinner had been prepared and made the banquet most attractive V.4 the host extend these additional invitations and to make every effort to make the banquet attractive. God spoke through His prophets and prepare the nation to enter the kingdom, John the Baptist began his ministry, he announced the kingdom of God was at hand... He sent more servants after his resurrection apostle etc. and urged those who had been invited to enter the promised kingdom.

**What was their respond to the invitation?** One guest was concerned with his field. He was laboring to increase his own wealth and ignored the invitation in order to guarantee a good harvest. Another guest devoted himself to his business. Some who received invitations used violence to remove any further to attend the banquet. Jesus' responded V. 7

1- Sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city( AD 70 killed 1.5 Million)

2- New invitation was extended to the nations V.8-10

3- The third the final judgement V.12-14

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #10**

#### **Introduction: Read Matthew 22:1-14**

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**1- Who prepared a wedding banquet? V.2**

**2- Who had been invited to the wedding? 3-7**

**3- What was Jesus respond to those who was guilty of the sin of rejecting his invitations? V.7-10**

**4- Who will accepted into the kingdom of God and enter the wedding? V.11-12**

**5- What will happen to the people that not wearing wedding clothes? V.13-14**

**Parables of Jesus**

**Lesson #11**

**Introduction Read Luke14:15-24**

**What is the difference between the banquet in Matthew and the banquet in Luke?**

Luke concerns a certain man, in Matthew a king. In Matthew a wedding banquet for the king's son in Luke a great supper. In Luke 5 invitations in Matthew 4 invitations. In Luke the invitation guests make excuses, in Matthew they refuse and turn violent. In Luke the invited guests are passed by (no one of those men who were invited will get a taste of my banquet), in Matthew are destroyed and judged. V.15 Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.

**1- What is the banquet in heaven (kingdom of God) look like? Revelation 19:5-16**

**2- How many invitation has been sent out and to whom?**

**3- What was the people excuses from coming to the wedding? V.18-20**

**4- How the Master (the owner of the house) responded to those who make excuses and rejected his invitations? V.21-24**

## Parables of Jesus

### Lesson #12

#### Introduction

The expert in law addressed Christ as teacher. By so addressing Christ this law expert recognized Him as a scholar in the law and showed that he desired to discuss Christ's interpretation of the righteousness of the law.

Two questions occur:

#### The first in Luke 10:25

What must I do to inherit eternal life? This question concerns salvation, has been much misunderstood and has been used to suggest that salvation may be obtained by works (Titus 3:4-7).

The second question: Luke 10:29 Who is my neighbor? How righteous must I be to enter the messianic kingdom that you are offering?

Concerns God-pleasing conduct. James 2:14, 17-18 Christ was not telling the man that he would be saved by keeping the law. The law was primarily designed to be a revelation of the holiness of God 1Peter 1:15-16

Jericho is about twelve miles northeast of Jerusalem and is located on the depths of the Jordan Valley. People usually sought to travel in groups for protection from the robbers.

Jesus introduce 3 who had traveled the same road. The first two were among the religious leaders of Israel. A Priest and a Levite. Has been returning from the ministries in the temple.

The third traveler was a Samaritan one who was considered an outcast by the Jews John 4:9

**1- How many classes of people do we see in this story?  
What is Jesus' point here?**

Given the divisions between Jews and Samaritans see John 4.

**2. How might one justify the actions of the priest and the Levite? V.29- 32**  
(See Lev. 21:1-3 Num. 19:11-22)

**3. What is the difference between the religious leader' attitude and the Samaritan attitude? V.33-37**

**4. What attitude or behavior does God want you to have that is the most difficult to accept in the beginning of 2002? To whom will you be a Good Samaritan this year?**

## Parables of Jesus

### Lesson #13

#### **Introduction Luke 11:1-13**

The Pharisees set great store by prayer. Following the example of *Daniel 6:10* they prayed three times during the course of the day. The Pharisees did their praying in public *Luke 18:10-11*. Instead of uttering prayers as petitions to God, the Pharisees sought to impress people with their piety. Christ deemed such prayer to be hypocritical, for he said, *They love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full Matthew 6:5*. The praying of the Pharisees was deemed by Christ to be babbling and as such was not on any higher level than the empty repetition of pagans *V.7*. Those following the pattern of the Pharisees had never learned to pray. The preaching of John the Baptist had been believed by many Jews who were anticipating the coming of the Messiah. John had taught his disciple how to pray *Luke 5:33*. Many of John's disciples had turned from him to follow Jesus. Therefore, they came to Christ, asking, Lord, teach us to pray *Luke 11:1*.

#### **1- How to pray and how to pray effectively? V.1-4**

First comes to God, his father, second, desires that the name of God might be honored, third, seeks the coming of God's kingdom, fourth prays for daily provision, forgiveness of sins and deliverance from evil spirits and that not merely for himself but for others also

#### **2- Why does it seem that some prayers are unanswered? V. 5-8**

- Because what we are asking for needs to be perfected for our good James 4:3
- These stories do not teach that the privilege of prayer is for everyone. It is for God's children only/ goes to his friend not a stranger. John 8:32-44/ Eph 5:8,2:1-3
- The difficult problem is to know it in the waiting period. Why was God waiting so long to answer? Romans 5:1-5 my hope was with God not in a solution to my problem. The things we needed most is for the love of God to be poured into my heart.

#### **3- If God knows what we need, and anticipates our prayers before we ask Him, What's the purpose of prayer? V.9-10**

God wants to give us a gifts. More than answers to prayer, he wants to give us Himself.V.13

Ask, seek, knock! To make our concerns known. To ask is to make our request known. To knock is to ask for what the Lord has guided us to pray. He want to move us from I want to Lord what do you want? To seek is to receive the Lord's perspective on our petition

All I want to know is Christ Ph3:10/ 1Cor 2:2

#### **4- What is the central theme about the essential nature of God and people? V.11-13**

### **Parables of Jesus Lesson # 14**

#### **Introduction/ Luke 18:1-8**

#### **Why Is Jesus telling his disciples this Parable? V.1**

In this Parable concerns the delay of Christ's return at the end of the age Luke 17:20-37. The plea of the widow for justice is parallel to believers' prayers for Christ's return. The teaching is that He will return, even though the event itself proves to be a long way off, and that in the meantime Christians are to continue to pray: "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus" Revelation 22:20 Many of us do not find time for prayer because we think of God as a reluctant neighbor, or as a judge of our failures and inadequacies. Jesus wants us to know the ready availability of God. He knows our needs before we ask Him. In fact, He creates in us a desire to ask for what He is more ready to give than we are to ask. God keeps an open door-day and night. He does not need to be awakened.

#### **1- Describe the worldly Judge? V.2-5**

#### **2- Who are the chosen one? V.7 Read John15:14-17, 1Peter2:4-10**

**3- What has God told us about Himself? V. 6-8**

**4- As I struggle with pain what from this story do I need the most? How do I to pray?**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #15**

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See Lev. 21:1-3 Num. 19:11-22

**What is the difference between the religious leader' attitude and the Samaritan attitude? V.33-37**

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## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #16**

**Read Matthew20:1-15**

**Introduction:** Why is this parable told here? See 19:20,30; 20:16

This parable mentions familiar issues that we read about in our daily newspaper-unemployment, wages, and the struggle between the labor and management. This

parable can offer a little help for our contemporary economic problems; any manager who treated his employees like this master did would be in immediate trouble with labor unions and would find himself with a major strike on his hands and a picket line of disgruntled laborers marching around his vineyard.

**1- From an employer's viewpoint, how would you react to the landowner's wage practices?**

**2- What does this parable say to you about God and his kingdom?**

**3- Who gets any less of God: The eleventh hour converts (Gentiles)? Or those who should have known God since the first hour (the Jews)?**

**4- How do you feel about recent converts getting the same benefits as you in the kingdom?**

**5- Do you ever envy God's blessing on others?**

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #17**

Reading: Luke 8:16-21; 11:33-36 (Two stories about the lamps)

**Introduction:** Our Lord talked about lamps on quite a few occasions, generally using them to stress the responsibility of His disciples to others in this world. **Matt 5:15-16** He called His disciples the light of the world. It developed from two stories from Luke's gospel: In a context of His teaching of His disciples (as in the sermon on the Mount), the image is applied to the life of Christ's disciples, stressing that they must give careful heed to His teachings so that they will represent the gospel well.

**1- If I looked under your bed right now, what would I find? (Suitcase, old socks, dust balls or others..)**

**2- If Jesus and his message are the lamp of truth, what is this parable saying about the kingdom of God? V.16/ John 8:12; 9:5**

**3- Jesus when he was thinking of the fact that one day he would be taken out of the world He said; "you are the light of the world" Matthew 5:14? How can we do that?**

**4- What is the promise for those who listen and do and for those don't listen and prefer darkness? V.17, 18, 21/**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #18**

**Reading: Matthew 11:33-36 (Story about the lamps)**

**Introduction:**

In a context of rebuking His enemies. The application is to unbelievers, and the challenge is to clear up their spiritual vision so that they can perceive the gospel. The light is shining; He is the light. But they needed up their perception of Him. As one commentator says, when the eye is sound and right and light is shining, the eye enable you to make full use of the light-You can see where you are, how to walk and how to do your work. But when there is some thing wrong in your eye you can not make use of the light even when you are irradiated by the brightest light. Your whole body is then, as it were, wrapped in darkness.

**1- How many flesh light do you own? How many work?**

**2- What does the light represent? the eye? the body? the darkness? Luke 11:33-36**

**3- How do we know that we are walking in the light? John3:19-21**

**4- How can we walk in this world as children of light? Eph 5:6-14**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #19**

**Reading:** Matthew 18:15-20; 21-35 (The unforgiving son)

**Introduction:** Christ had been asked, who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? Matt 18:1

Using a child as an object lesson, he had responded, “Whoever humbles himself like this held is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven V.4. Christ warned the disciples against leading one of these little ones, that is, children of the kingdom, into sin V.6. This parable concerning conflicts and misunderstandings raised a question in Peter’s mind concerning obligation to forgive the offender. Peter asked Christ, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?

Based on this parable, Do we forgive others so God will forgive us, or does God forgive us so that we will have a forgiving attitude?

**1- What does Jesus answer say about forgiveness in the kingdom?**

V.21 And certainly seven times exceeded the demands of Pharisees. Offenders in Jesus’ day were forgiven up to three times; a fourth offense need not be forgiven. Jesus said that Peter should forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times V.22. According to the Jewish idiom seventy-seven times meant innumerable times. Christ was saying righteousness demands that we forgive without keeping a record of the number of times forgiveness has been sought and granted.

**2- How does this passage reconcile with Matthew 7:3-5?**

**3- What is the principle for dealing with someone who has wronged you?  
V.26-30**

**4- In refusing to be merciful to others, what do we deny ourselves? V.31-34**

**5- Do we forgive others so God will forgive us, or does God forgive us so that we will have a forgiving attitude? Explain**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #20**

**Reading: Matthew 21:28-32 (Doing God's will)**

**Introduction:** The preceding context concerns an occasion when Christ went into the temple courts and was challenged by the priests and the elders Matt. 21:23-27. The issue was the authority by which He had assumed the role of Messiah and had presented himself as messiah in the triumphal entry and in cleansing temple. Since these acts were clearly in fulfillment of messianic prophecies. Christ raised a question concerning the ministry of John, whom the common people held to be a prophet from God. The leaders were afraid to reply, for either they would offend the people who believed that John was a prophet, or they would place themselves under an obligation to submit to the authority of John and Jesus, which they refused to do. John demanded that the people confess that they were sinners and in need of salvation. In contrast, the religious leaders affirmed that they were righteous and needed no repentance.

**1- What links this parable to verses 23-27?**

As a result of the conflict in claims between Christ and the Jewish leaders, two questions arose: Who is a son of the kingdom? How may sonship be tested? Christ told them this parable of the two sons:

**2- What is the Father's request?**

**3- What does each son say and do?**

**4- What group is like which son?**

**5- Which son's story is most like your own?**

**6- Have you ever had the feeling that God wanted you to do something and you avoided it or neglect it?**

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #21**

**Reading:** Luke 13:22-30 (The narrow door of salvation)

**Introduction:** Most of what we have called parables of salvation are obvious parables. It is more response of Jesus to a question He was asked whether only a few people would be saved, and He responded by telling His questioner. The sermon on the mount has a similar illustration as the Lord came to the end of that address he admonished his listeners Matt25:1-13.  
1- There is only one door, and it is a narrow one. 2- that door is now open, though it will one day close; and 3- Our duty is to enter it.

**1- What happened the last time you were locked out of your house or car? How did you get in?**

**2- According to Jesus; who will make it through the narrow door and who won't? V.30**

**3- What do you think Jesus means by evildoers?**

**4- How do you know whether you are inside or outside the door? How can you be sure?**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #22**

**Introduction: Luke 16:1-9**

Sin traps people in indifference (sluggards's people) so that they often become more foolish about their self-preservation than animals. Geese and other birds will fly south as winter approaches. Rodents will store up for winter. Some animals hibernate. But human beings proceed in a manner they know is foolish and characteristically fail to make adequate provision for their future. He was manager for a rich man Abraham the kind of manager: Eliezer might have been for Abraham. Joseph for Potiphar. It said in Gen 39:6 he left in Joseph's care everything except the food he ate.

**1- Why would it be important for Jesus' disciples to hear this parable? What characterizes the attitude of Pharisees V.14?**

The Pharisees were characterized as lovers of money Luke 16:14. In Deuteronomy 28 God had promised material blessings to those who obeyed the law. Christ in this parable correct erroneous attitudes of the Pharisees toward money. The purpose, however, was not only to rebuke the Pharisees but to instruct the disciples in these important matters.

In Deuteronomy 28 God had promised material blessings to those who obeyed the law. The man in Christ's story had that kind of authority. But unlike Joseph and Eliezer, who were models of integrity, this man was dishonest. He cheated his master, and the story begins with the revelation of his dishonesty. The master called him in and asked him; What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot to manager any longer V2

**2- What did the manager do when he saw he was about to get fired? V.3**

Up to this point, the future of the manager had been secure. But now through the loss of his appointment, his future was insecure. There were few options: 1- take a laborer's job. He is physically unable to perform such rigorous work. 2- alternative was to beg. 3- Exercise his authority as administrator in this final period to gain friends so when he lost his job these newly found friends would provide for him.

### **3- Why did the master commend the manager? V.8**

He was acting selfishly and was considering only his own good. Thus he was dishonestly but the manager used his present opportunities with a view to receiving future rewards. In that sense he acted wisely.

### **4- What was Jesus teaching here? How does Jesus summarize this parable? V.9**

A- He saw the issue clearly

B- Care for his future

C- The dishonest manager is also an example for us because he made provision for what he knew was coming. That is, he not only saw the issues clearly and cared about the outcome, he also did something about it

### **5- How do verses 10,12,13 help you understand his point?**

The Purpose three points:

1- the Lord says to use money to make friends Matt 25

2- the Lord makes a point of trust, showing that a person must prove faithful in little things before being trusted with large things.

3- The Lord declares that a person cannot serve both God and money.

**One final point** “he moved quickly”: He did not delay, there was no time to lose if you are not yet in a right relationship to God.

## **Parables of Jesus Lesson #23**

**Introduction:** Read: Luke 19:11-27

The problem: Rome demanded faithfulness to a commitment on the part of those who served as tax collectors. That Zacchaeus was continued in that office by Rome was an evidence of his faithfulness to Rome in the discharge of his office. Since the disciples understood that Rome required a commitment from people like Zachaeus, the question would quite naturally arise as to what Christ expected of those who had made commitment to Him.

**Where does the man of noble birth go?** Christ likening Himself to the nobleman who had gone to a distant country. Christ was returning to His Father because of the rejection of Himself as Messiah and of His Kingdom.

During his absence He would confer a responsibility on His servants. Although there would be continuing opposition to Him, He expected those whom He had appointed to be loyal and faithful.

**1- What are his servants to do in his absence? V. 13**

**2- What has happened to the 10 minas given to the first servant? Second servant? V. 15-21**

Take charge for ten cities

Take charge for five cities

**3- How does the master reply to the 3<sup>rd</sup> servant? “The result” V.22-23**

I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant!...

**4- What is the meaning of verses 14 and 27? Who are the enemies?**

**5- Does verse 26 contradict Jesus’ words to the ruler in 18:18-30?**

**6- How does this parable speak to the misconception in verse 11? How does it speak to us?V.24**

**7- What talents and resources do you think Jesus has left with you? How do you feel about the way you have invested them? Is fear ever a motive in your relationship with Christ? Why?**

## **Parables of Jesus**

### **Lesson #24**

**Introduction:** Read Matthew 25:1-13

This parable was based on wedding customs of the time. Jewish weddings typically took place in the evening, though the exact time was kept secret.

Prior to the ceremony the groom would go to the bride's home and lead her, along with the villagers, in a procession to the wedding. The virgins in this story were waiting for the groom, and were probably bridesmaids who had the responsibility to prepare the bride to meet the groom.

**1- How does this parable relate to Matthew 24?**

**2- What made the wise virgin different from the foolish virgins?**

They had been girl Scouts. They didn't fall asleep. They were always prepared and they made responsible decisions

**3- What unexpected event takes place? V.5-6**

**4- What does mean "Keep watch"?**

**5- What is the point of this parable?**

Each of us needs our own relationship with the Lord. You can't obtain faith in Christ just by being around others who do. There is a limited opportunity to enter God's kingdom. Be prepared for Christ's return.

**6- What does Jesus expect Christians to do with their lives in anticipation of his return?**

**Parables of Jesus**

## Lesson #25

### **Introduction: Read Matthew 25:14-30**

The term “talent” was first used for a unit of weight, then for a unit of coins. The present-day use a “talent” as an ability comes from this parable. This parable of the talents in many ways is similar to the parable of the ten mina-Luke 19:11-22

Prior to speaking this parable, Christ had instructed his listeners concerning faithfulness. In this parable Jesus discussed the importance of being found faithful at His coming.

**1- Why did the servant with one talent hide his money?**

**2- What was Jesus saying to the two servants who doubles their talents?**

**3- What is the parable message?**

**4- Share two or three talents you are using for God. What is your favorite excuse for not using them?**

**5- Why do you think Jesus thought it necessary to repeat his point so many times and in so many different ways (as in ch. 23-25)**

## **Parables of Jesus Lesson #26**

### **Introduction**

The Old Testament has made clear that Gentiles will have their part in that kingdom. For example, God promised Abraham, All people on earth will be blessed through you (Gen 12:3). The prophets had predicted the blessing that would come on Gentiles when Messiah establishes His kingdom with them (Zech. 8:20-23).

In the parable of the sheep and goats, Christ revealed the judgment that will come on living world. When the Lord returns He will gather all nations before Him. The nations will be brought together for Judgment, not as national entities but rather as individuals.

**1- On what basis does Jesus say people are divided into sheep and goats?**

**2- What point is Jesus making when he describes those who will be part of his kingdom?**

**3- Who today are the hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick, imprisoned? Who the least of these brothers of mine?**

**4- What does this section teach about Christian responsibility?**

**5- In these six areas, where do you find yourself serving most naturally?  
In which areas do you do you have the most trouble reaching out?**

**6- In summary, what did Jesus teach in chapters 23-25?**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #27**

**Introduction:** The Lord then told Simon this parable on being thankful

**1- What does Jesus see in this woman that Simon does not?**

She has no name. We are only told that she had lived a sinful life in that town and that she had obviously repented of her sin. She entered with the other uninvited guests. She would have been noticed, snubbed, scorned. All knew who she was. They did not want her company. But she was not there because they cared for or she for them. She was there because of Jesus. She came to seek forgiveness and to minister to Jesus. She loved Him and knew that He loved and would forgive her. His love has melted her heart.

**2- How does this affect Jesus' actions toward her? How do you think Jesus felt when she began to crying, wetting his feet with her tears, wiping them with her hair, then kissing his feet and pouring perfume on them?**

Surprised- flattered- upset- embarrassed- moved- uncomfortable etc.

**3- In this passage, what seems to be Jesus' main concern? Simon's concern?**

Jesus in this story is on trial, as it were. He is the true judge of men, not Simon. Yet Jesus goes to this man's house to be judged. Why? Because of grace. Jesus never held himself aloof from anyone and honored even the

most imperfect of motives. As one commentator writes: He did not decline the request of Simon, but went to his house, just, indeed, as he came to earth itself to seek and to save that which was lost.

#### **4- Who do you think was a great sinner, the woman or Simon?**

There have lack of misunderstanding and ingratitude. Simon misunderstand everything

Simon misunderstood the woman because he was looking only on the outward appearance and not on her heart, which was what Jesus was seeing. This woman had been turned from sin to salvation. She had been brought to repentance and was now in the act of worshiping Jesus. Simon saw only her past, and therefore was willing to dismiss her without any further investigation. Simon fail to understand Jesus too. He was saying if Jesus is a prophet, he will know the character of this woman and will have nothing to do with her to proceed...

Simon misunderstood himself. In looking down on the woman, he missed seeing that he himself was a sinner and every bit as much in need of the grace of God. There has probably never been a period of history in which people are as unthankful as they are in our day.

#### **5- How difficult is it for you to express your love in a relationship with Jesus? What have you learned from this story that you could apply this week? What are the implications of Jesus' words and parable?**

The more you have sinned the more you will love God. You cannot experience grace till you recognize you are a sinner. Our love to God is our basis of our forgiveness. Our love for Christ is the evidence of our forgiveness

## **Parables of Jesus Lesson #28**

### **Introduction:**

Christ in Luke 12 warned the vast multitude that assembled to hear Him teach concerning the pervasive attitude that characterized the Pharisees. In verses 1-11 He dealt with hypocrisy and in 13-34 with covetousness.

The man not become rich by the new harvest. Instead, the harvest only added to his riches. He did not need the added wealth to sustain himself or his household. When the new harvest came and the rich farmer realized that he had no place to store the crop, his solution was I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods V.18. This solution to the problem of the man's increased wealth shows that he had no concern for his neighbor.

### **I- How you describe the rich man in the parable from the world stand point?**

He is clever, brilliant, good businessman: He had plowed the fields, planted the grain, tended the soil, and gathered the harvest. Selfish: He has done it himself. Thought wealth was his, and he had no responsibility to anyone. He thought it was all for him, so he stored it up, taking no thought of anyone else. Dumb, unhappy, content and a show-up.

Why would Jesus said It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God Mtt. 19:24?

1Tim 6:10 the love of money is a root of all kind of evil.

### **II- Why was that man foolish from God stand point? Luke 12:28-33**

1- He has no concern to God: He did not fulfill the first requirement of the law, that is, Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind Luke 10:27. He was showing that his first love was for himself and his own comfort and enjoyment. He was not righteous before the first great commandment of the law. And the second also His neighbors

According to scripture, a fool is a man who leaves God out of any consideration. Psalm 141:1 the fool says in his heart, "there is no God".

2- He misused the wealth God had given.

Wealth tends to trap us into self-absorption, materialism, and insensitivity to others-just a sin trap us. His goal in life was to satisfy himself and to use for his own selfish purposes the wealth that he had accumulated.

3- The man was foolish is that he allowed his concern for riches to eclipse the far more important concern that he should had for his soul. That was bad business even from a worldly standpoint, because possessions are perishable goods while the soul is intended to well with God forever.

4- This man was pronounced by God to be a fool because he did not recognize his material blessings as coming from God, nor did he recognize his material any obligation to God in the use of his possessions. Material things are designed for this life, not for the life to come. Therefore, the man was investing his whole life in what temporary, not in what eternal. The man was foolish because wasn't rich toward God. While the man considered himself to be sovereign over his possessions, the parable moves on to show that God was sovereign over the man's life. James 2:5 Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? He is considered rich merely because he has material possessions. He was ungrateful to God who provided salvation through faith. The rich person, then, is not determined by the amount of possessions, but rather by his or her attitude toward those possessions. Example The rich man and Lazarus.

## **Parables of Jesus Lesson #29**

### **Introduction: Luke6:46-49; Matthew 7: 5-27**

This parable ends Jesus' sermon on the Mount, which began in Matthew 5.

### **1- Who is Jesus addressing here?**

People with hearing problems- Housing developers. A crowd faced with a big decision.

It is important to see that those words were not spoken of people who rebelled against Christ's teachings at all, but to people who listened to them and made profession of faith. It is folly of people who have heard what is right, have acknowledged that it is right, and profess to be following, but who do not put Christ's teachings into practice.

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## **2- What does the rock refer to? What does it mean to build your house on the rock or to dig deeply and lay a foundation?**

The truth of the gospel. Faith in Jesus. Obedience to Jesus' words: V.46  
According to Jesus we cannot have His ethics without Himself, but neither can we have Him without His ethics. We must build on both.

Jesus himself: (1 Tim 6:17-19; 2 Tim 2:19).

(Isa. 28:16; Eph.2:19-20; Acts 4:11; 1Peter 2:6-7)

## **3- What does the sand refer to?**

Atheism and agnosticism

weak doctrine

wishy-washy commitment

the world's values

disobedience to Jesus' words

## **4- Why did the foolish man build his house on sand?**

He wanted a beach in his yard.

It was an easier place to dig.

He got the land at a bargain price.

Other people were doing it.

He didn't know he was doing it.

## **5- What is Jesus promising those who are willing to live by his word?**

You will never experience storm. You will experience the same storms as everyone else. The storms won't destroy your faith. You will get a new house if the old one collapses.

## **6- What kind of storm do you think claims the most spiritual casualties?**

Intellectual doubts. Moral failures relational conflict. Personal crises

## **How you describe your spiritual foundation?**

Shaky. Steady. Brand new. Temporary. Eroding. Destroyed, but I'm trying to rebuild.

## **Parables of Jesus** **Lesson #30**

**Introduction:** Matthew 21: 33-46; Mark 12:9-19; Luke 20:9:19

V.33 Listen to another parable, show that Christ was continuing the teaching contained in the parable of the two sons concerning the Pharisees and their relationship to His kingdom.

The problem since the nation of Israel, under the leadership of their religious authority, was rejecting Christ, two questions arose: What would happen to that nation? What would be the course of the kingdom in view of that rejection?

The back ground of this parable is found in Isaiah 5:1-2 where the Prophet described a vineyard that had been planted on a fertile hillside. Christ was reviewing the history of the nation.

He was pressing the parable home upon His Jewish audience. Israel was the vine of God and they have been planted in a good land. When Jesus told the story could be no doubt in their minds that he was speaking of them and of those who had responsibility for their spiritual development.

Jeremiah 2:21 had recorded I had planted you like a choice vine of sound and reliable stock. Ezekiel 19:10 declared: Your mother was like a vine in your vineyard planted by the water; it was fruitful and full of branches because of abundant water. And Psalm 80:8-10

### **1- Who is represented as the Landowner? The Vineyard? Tenants? Servants? Son?**

The Father in God

Vineyard in Israel= church=believers

Tenants in Physical Israel

The Son is Jesus

The Servants are the Prophets

### **2- What was the message?**

### **3- What corresponds to the son's death? What will he (the owner) do to those tenants?**

- 1- V.41 He will exercise authority to remove those who misused the oversight entrusted to them.
- 2- The owner would appointed other overseers who would produce the harvest that rightly belonged to the owner.
- 3- V.42 Christ revealed the judgment that would come on that generation and their leaders, who had rejected every exhortation through the prophets and were now not only rejecting the exhortation of Christ but were in the process of putting Him to death.

#### **4- Who will be given the kingdom of God?**

V.43 Christ said, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruits/ a people as a reference to the Gentiles who will be the people through whom God works during the period in which Israel is set aside. Acts 15:13-14 and Eph 2-3

### **Parables of Jesus Lesson #31**

**Introduction:** Jesus came to enable Christians with a tang- distinctive, sharp, pungent. Salty Christians with an incisive quality that seasons the life of others and society. Great multitudes followed after the Master. He wanted them to realize what they were doing. They were encountering a demanding God.

He had committed all in the Incarnation, He wanted nothing less from those who responded. Jesus states the cost of discipleship with alarming clarity. His followers must put Him and the living God He incarnated, first in their lives-before family and friends, plans or ambitions. In this context, He introduces the demand of the cross. Count the cost!

**1- What is Jesus saying about family?**

**2- What He required of those who would follow Him in truth?**

**3- What does he mean by “hate”? By carrying a cross?**

**4- What do each of the three parables tell us about how to give our lives to Jesus?**

**5- What does the salt analogy emphasize about discipleship? Matt. 5:13**  
Bring preservation, purification and libation to the world

**6-When did you realize that following Jesus was costly? How so?**

## **Parables of Jesus Lesson #32**

**Introduction:** Luke 18:9-14

This parable about two different men. The Pharisees were a religious sect whose prime concern was keeping the law of Moses. Tax collectors were considered traitors and thieves, because they collected taxes for the Romans from their fellow Jews-usually with personal profit.

**1- Why do you think the Pharisee and the tax collector acted the way they did?**

**2- What is Jesus teaching here?**

**3- How would the Pharisee be accepted in this small group? How about the tax collector?**

**4- How did the tax collector demonstrate healthy humility?**

**5- How do both demonstrate faith?**

**6- How this parable complement the one on persistence? V.1-8**

**7- How are you humble before God? Mic. 6:8**

**Parables of Jesus  
Lesson #33**

**Introduction:** Luke 7:29-35/ Matthew 11:16-19

When we drift from a deep intimate companionship with God, we become negative, critical, judgmental and recalcitrant. We resist the repeated

overtures of God's love. We become respectably unresponsive. It happens to all of us at time.

That's what happened to the Pharisees. They rejected John the Baptist and resisted Jesus' ministry. What happened to them can happen to us. We can get just enough religion to make us rigid, but lose our purpose which release power. Jesus was a careful observer of life. He drew His parabolic illustration from the common things of life. The parable challenge us to clarify and claim our purpose and live it with absolute earnestness. Our ultimate purpose is Jesus Christ: To know Him, allow Him to love us, love Him in response and love others as He has loved us.

**What questions does Jesus put to the people? V.24-28**

**Looking at verses 3 are you more like John or Jesus in your lifestyle?  
How do the people respond to John? To Jesus?**

**How does the people's response to John contrast to that of the Pharisees  
V.29?**

**How are the followers of the Pharisees like children? How are they like  
the children pictured here?**

**How is the N.T believer greater than John V.11 see 18:3-4**

**What would I have done with Jesus of Nazareth?**  
Our answer depends on what we are doing right now.