

The Parables of Jesus

Opening Prayer: Prayer to Jesus, the Good Shepherd

Faithful Shepherd, You are not a hireling who runs away at the sight of danger, but Your fidelity was tested and proved on the wood of the Cross. Accept the gift of our gratitude for Your marvelous care. Help us to hear and follow Your Voice. Watchful Shepherd, Who protects the flock and searches tirelessly for those who wander from the fold, retrieve the lost and bring them home. Tend and heal their wounds. Good Shepherd, Who lays down His Life for His sheep, nourish Your people with the Bread of Life, that we may reflect Your likeness and enjoy the spring of Living Water that never ends. Amen.

Background on the Parables

- What is a “parable”?
- Why did Jesus use parables?
- No parables in the Gospel of John
- Multiple meanings and interpretations
- The “implicit Christology” of the parables
- The effect of the parables → THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Exegesis on some parables in particular

PARABLE	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE
The Builders	7:24-27		6:47-49
The Sower	13:1-9	4:1-9	8:4-8
The Wheat and the Weeds	13:24-30		
The Mustard Seed	13:31-32	4:30-32	13:18-19
The Leaven	13:33		13:20-21
The Hidden Treasure	13:44		
The Pearl of Great Value	13:45-46		
The Dragnet	13:47-50		
The Lamp		4:21-23	8:16-18
The Growing Seed		4:26-29	
The Two Debtors			7:41-43
The Good Samaritan			10:25-37
The Friend at Midnight			11:5-13
The Rich Fool			12:16-21
The Barren Fig Tree			13:6-9
The Lost Sheep	18:10-14		15:4-7
The Lost Coin			15:8-10
The Prodigal Son			15:11-32
The Unforgiving Servant	18:23-35		
The Unrighteous Steward			16:1-9
The Unrighteous Judge			18:1-8
The Pharisee and Tax Collector			18:9-14
The Laborers in the Vineyard	20:1-16		
The Two Sons	21:28-32		
The Wicked Tenants	21:33-46	12:1-12	20:9-19
The Marriage Feast	22:1-14		
The Great Banquet			14:15-24
The Wise and the Foolish Bridesmaids	25:1-13		
The Talents	25:14-30		

