

“The Purpose of Parables”

Matthew 13:1-3a, 10-17

Scripture reading: Matthew 13:1-17 “The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. <sup>2</sup> And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. <sup>3</sup> And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, **Behold, a sower went forth to sow;** <sup>4</sup> **And when he sowed, some *seeds* fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:** <sup>5</sup> **Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:** <sup>6</sup> **And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.** <sup>7</sup> **And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:** <sup>8</sup> **But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.** <sup>9</sup> **Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.**

<sup>10</sup> And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? <sup>11</sup> He answered and said unto them, **Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.** <sup>12</sup> **For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.** <sup>13</sup> **Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.** <sup>14</sup> **And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:** <sup>15</sup> **For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.** <sup>16</sup> **But blessed *are* your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.** <sup>17</sup> **For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous *men* have desired to see *those things* which ye see, and have not seen *them*; and to hear *those things* which ye hear, and have not heard *them*.”**

Message Title: “The Purpose of Parables”

1. The Definition of Parables
2. The Explanation of Parables (vs 10-17)

Mark 4:11 “And he said unto them, **Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all *these* things are done in parables:”**

Luke 8:10 “And he said, **Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.”**

Psalm 103:19 “The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.”

Genesis 1:26-28 “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. <sup>28</sup> And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”

a. Parables **Conceal** Divine Truth (vs 13-15)

Proverbs 29:1 “He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth *his* neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.”

b. Parables **Reveal** Divine Truth (vs 16-17)

Psalm 119:18 “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. <sup>10</sup> But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

c. Parables **Fulfill** Prophesied Truth

3. The **Application**

a. **Search** the Scriptures

Psalm 119:162 “I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.”

b. **Interpret** the Scriptures

1 John 2:20 “But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.”

1 John 2:27 “But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”

c. **Apply** the Scriptures