

  
 Proclamation of the Gospel in the Parables of Jesus

What does this mean?


  
 Proclamation of the Gospel in the Parables of Jesus


What is your definition of a parable?

**Definition of a Parable**

- God's Word twisting into life.
- A story that has some actions that elements that surprise or is open ended or unresolved in some way and illustrates some aspect of living in the KoG.
- A saying of Jesus that presents a story where the actions/actors are outside the ordinary social contexts of Jesus' time, and these actions somehow address the social issues at hand which then leaves the reader befuddled.

**Definition of a Parable**

- Stories that are metaphorically and allegorically complex and often have more than one meaning for living in the KoG.
- Story which has elements which are sufficiently surprising or disturbing that they make you question what you think you know and consider the story and its application in a whole new way.


  
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Parables function as metaphors  
 challenging or inviting the audience  
 into a new or deeper experience of  
 God's dominion, a dominion  
 identified with those who are the  
**LAST LOST LEAST LITTLE DEAD**


  
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- Not every parable is parabolic. It may simply be a good illustration. (e.g., House on Rock/Sand)
- Some parables have been allegorized, and such a reading is *one* appropriate reading. (e.g., Sower, Tenants, Good Samaritan, Wheat & Weeds)
- Some parables have been 'historicized,' and such a reading is *one* appropriate reading. (e.g., Talents [in Lk], Great Supper [in Mt])
- Some actions by Jesus may be parabolic and may even be 'parabolized.' (e.g., Barren Fig Tree, Ten Lepers, Washing Feet)

## To Speak in Parables

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- How has this study of the parables changed the way I *think*?
- How has this study of the parables changed the way I *act*?
- How might one go about preaching a parable?
- How do parables relate to the “Gospel”? How are the parables an expression of the Gospel without drawing in Jesus’ death & resurrection? What is the good news in the parables that I can tell to others?