

“Now is the day of Salvation”

**God is so amazingly clever in His communication of truth...**

**Luke 22:31** *And the Lord said “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. <sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”*

<sup>33</sup> *But he said to Him, “Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death.”*

<sup>34</sup> *Then He said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me.”*

<sup>54</sup> Having arrested Him, they led *Him* and brought Him into the high priest’s house. But Peter followed at a distance. <sup>55</sup> Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. <sup>56</sup> And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, “This man was also with Him.” <sup>57</sup> But he denied Him, saying, “Woman, I do not know Him.” <sup>58</sup> And after a little while another saw him and said, “You also are of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not!” <sup>59</sup> Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, “Surely this *fellow* also was with Him, for he is a Galilean.” <sup>60</sup> But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying!” Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup> **And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.** Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” <sup>62</sup> So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

<sup>63</sup> *Now the men who held Jesus mocked Him and beat Him. <sup>64</sup> And having blindfolded Him, they struck Him on the face and asked Him, saying, “Prophecy! Who is the one who struck You?”<sup>65</sup> And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him.*

**Parables... no new thing! 2 Samuel 12** Then the Lord sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: “There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich *man* had exceedingly many flocks and herds. <sup>3</sup> But the poor *man* had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup> And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man’s lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.”

<sup>5</sup> So David’s anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, **“As the Lord lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! <sup>6</sup> And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity.”**<sup>7</sup> Then Nathan said to David, “You *are* the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if *that*

*had been* too little, I also would have given you much more! <sup>9</sup> Why have you despised the commandment of the Lord, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife *to be* your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon. <sup>10</sup> Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’ <sup>11</sup> Thus says the Lord: ‘Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. <sup>12</sup> For you did *it* secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.’” <sup>13</sup> So David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” And Nathan said to David, “The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die. <sup>14</sup> However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also *who is* born to you shall surely die.” <sup>15</sup> Then Nathan departed to his house.

**Parables: Truth hidden in plain sight. Earthly story with a heavenly meaning. We can almost always find ourselves in all of Jesus’ parables. Look for yourself... which one am I? *Am I the Son who wasted all God gave me in a self-seeking sinful life? Am I the other Son who is mad when God shows mercy to my prodigal brother? or am I like the Father who loves to show mercy to sinners... because that is how our Father in Heaven is?***

In Matthew 13 “Behold, a sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed,

**AM I THE ONE WHO HAD THE SEED DEVOURED BY BIRDS?**

*Am I the one who’s seed fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. <sup>7</sup>*

**Am I the one who had seed fall among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.**

***OR AM I GOOD GROUND THAT YIELDS A CROP SOME A HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTY, SOME THIRTY. <sup>9</sup> HE WHO HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR!”***

1. Jesus is talking to all who are inquiring about the end times.
2. The issues of controversy are everyone’s messianic expectations.
3. Now is the day of salvation; the Kingdom of God is at hand and is being established by Jesus’ messianic signs. Healing sick, cleansing lepers, etc.

The first thing Jesus does when he begins His ministry is to proclaim his mission to the world in terms of inaugurating “the Kingdom of God.” Jesus starts his public ministry with this declaration: *“The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of God is at hand, repent and believe the gospel.”* The gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke (synoptic gospel writers) proclaim that Jesus’ mission and ministry are to be observed and understood, according to the in terms of **“the Kingdom of God.”**

Jesus proclaims that His Kingdom is a **reign** not just a **realm**. He was establishing the authority inherent within a King to rule. All the gospels tell us this Kingdom is not just a **future home** a **present reality**. While the Kingdom awaited future culmination, its effects in terms of messianic salvation could be felt in the present moment. Like new wine put in old containers, it burst forth. The Kingdom of God, while still belonging to the future, was overflowing into the present with healings and other miracles demonstrating that it is **“at hand.”**

Jesus used parables as extended metaphors to illustrate dimensions of the Kingdom of God, and for the most part they were spoken in situations of conflict concerning questions about his mission, ministry and authority. By observing the concrete situation in which the parables were uttered, we are able to properly interpret the meaning and thus create an appropriate application to our lives... TODAY!

Jesus arrives on the scene announcing, “**Now is the Day of Salvation.**” Using metaphors of new wine, the harvest time, and the wedding, Jesus proclaimed the dawning of the new age. Like the fig tree which puts forth its shoots as a sign that summer is near, so all the signs of healings, of blind eyes being opened, of the poor having the gospel preached to them, are signs that “Now is the day of Salvation”

**- the Messiah has come.**

Luke 7 verse 20 Then the men had come to Him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, ‘Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?’” <sup>21</sup> And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight. <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that *the* blind see, *the* lame walk, *the* lepers are cleansed, *the* deaf hear, *the* dead are raised, *the* poor have the gospel preached to them. “Now is the Day of Salvation!”

**JESUS QUOTES FROM ISA. 35 A PROPHETIC DESCRIPTION OF THE MESSIANIC AGE... HE ADDS FROM ISA. 61:1 POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM... JESUS EVEN GOES BEYOND ISA. 35’S DESCRIPTION ADDS, LEPERS ARE CLEANSED AND DEAD RAISED... JESUS IS SAYING I EXCEED ALL HOPES, EXPECTATION, AND PROMISE.**

The hour has come! Living water flows to a thirsty land... salvation is here, the curse is gone, paradise has come again, the end of the age is upon us... tell John, “Now is the day of Salvation”.

In another place Jesus proclaims another part of the messianic promise found in Isa. 61... Luke 4:18 <sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,<sup>[1]</sup> To proclaim liberty to *the* captives And recovery of sight to *the* blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; <sup>19</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

<sup>20</sup> Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. <sup>21</sup> And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” <sup>22</sup> So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?”

Now is the Day of Salvation

In this section Jesus is announcing that the Kingdom of God is at hand (Proclamation). Jesus, therefore, does not use elaborate parables but **similes**.

**Harvest** – (Rejoicing) John 4:35/Matthew 9:37 Jesus says to his disciples the fields are ...– Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and *then* comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!

Don’t say later... we will gather the harvest, now, urgency. Jesus clearly wants His disciples to acquire a sense of urgency to the task of bringing people to salvation just like the Samaritan woman did.

**Joel 3:13** – Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, The vats overflow— For their wickedness *is* great.”

**Galatians 6:7** – Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. Revelation 14:15, 18 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, “Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.” ... <sup>18</sup>And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, “Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe.”

**Fig Tree** – Mark 13:28 – “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.” Only one with possible negative context \*end is coming.

**Lamp** – Mark 4:21 – Also He said to them, “Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be set on a lampstand?” **People often use this verse to say everything you’ve done wrong, said wrong, thought wrong is going to be exposed. That’s not what’s being said here. Rather, the Lord is saying, “I don’t want people to be in the dark concerning My ways or My heart.”**

The light has been kindled and this light cannot be hidden under a bushel or enclosed in a house, for it ignites the building and the whole countryside is lit. The secret of the Kingdom of God can no longer be hidden for disease and death are giving way to the deliverer.

But it was not for him to protect himself. The lamp has been lit the light is shining, but not to put out again! No, but in order to give light!

**I’m here... prophetically fulfilling the meaning of New Wine...**

**Genesis 9:20** – *Noah plants a vine in restored earth* - And Noah began *to be* a farmer, and he planted a vineyard.

**Numbers 13:23** – *spies bring grapes* – Then they came to the Valley of Eshcol, and there cut down a branch with one cluster of grapes; they carried it between two of them on a pole. *They also brought* some of the pomegranates and figs.

**John 2:11** – *wine symbolizes new age* – This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

**New Wine Skins** – Mark 2:21 No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse. **If you take an old sail, for instance, and patch one of its small holes with new sail cloth, as soon as it**

becomes wet and dries, you will have a far bigger hole. The new fabric which Christ brings cannot be interwoven with the **tired** fibers of old religion; it will simply tear it apart.

<sup>22</sup> And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins." **Jesus came to introduce something new, not to patch up something old.** So, the same principle was true for wineskins. A wineskin would expand under the pressure of fermentation, so if you put new, unfermented wine in an old, brittle wineskin, it was sure to burst.

**Jesus' point was made clear by these examples. You can't fit His new life into the old forms. Jesus traded fasting for feasting; sackcloth and ashes for a robe of righteousness; a spirit of heaviness for a garment of praise; mourning for joy; LAW FOR GRACE.**

**The Newness of being born again! Joy of being forgiven! The softness of a clean conscience... old had passed... a new heart for a fresh start "The Kingdom of God was not just for the future but for now..."**

**My foul mouth disappeared... I was given a heart of flesh for the heart of stone.**

**I love what Hughes says,** *"When Christ fills the wineskins of our lives, the swelling life within stretches us to new limits. The inner pressure expels unneeded things and fills every aspect of life. Those who have not yet had Christ take up residence in their life can scarcely imagine how fully they will be filled; how every aspect of their humanity from their intellectual to their emotions will be changed. So, dynamic is the new life that the old wineskins of previous religious structures must give way."* As Paul put it; brand new creations, the old has past all has become new! **2 Cor. 5:17**

**Simplicity of relationship... Jesus loves you so much and wants to walk with you... spend time with Him... because "Now is the day of Salvation"**

Remember dear loved by God, we are NOT called to religion, but to relationship, not to sadness, **but to gladness**, not to a funeral, **but to a wedding.**

Global Atheist Convention Called 'Reason to Hope' Cancelled Because No One Wants To Go  
**Shout to the void all the earth let us sing power and majesty praise to NOTHING.**

No one loves the little children all the children of the world... no one hears you when you cry no one hears your lullaby no one loves the little children of the world.

Row Row row your boat gently down the reef wallowing, wallowing wallowing in your unbelief. Do it in rounds.

Evolution this I know, Charles Darwin told me told me so accidentally alive if your weak you won't survive

I am an A.t.h.e.i.s.t... and I have n.o.t.h.i.n.g. to give me c.e.r.t.a.i.n.t.y... and when I die I will be A.L.O.N.E