

# JESUS OUR WISDOM, PART 2

RODERICK GRACIANO, AUGUST 28, 2022

He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose. — Jim Elliot

Jesus is our Prophet, Priest, King *and* Sage (1 Corinthians 1.30)

As prophet He reveals God's truth to us, as priest He cleanses us of sin, as king He protects us and holds us accountable, and as sage He \_\_\_\_\_ us in the important decisions of life.

Wisdom teachings, like proverbs and parables, convey a wisdom principle (a natural law of how things work in society). We can often identify the wisdom principle of a wisdom saying by completing this sentence: "A wise person will ...."

ESV (Enhanced With Verbal Spatial Quality)

Mat 13.44 "The kingdom of heaven **is** like treasure **hidden** in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy **he goes** and **sells** all that he has and **buys** that field.

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven **is** like [a man,] a merchant in search of fine pearls,

46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and **sold** all that **he** **had** and bought it.

These two parables are *not* allegorical; the treasure is just a treasure, the pearl is a pearl. Both parables convey the same wisdom principle, with slightly different applications: A wise person will \_\_\_\_\_

## WORKING DEFINITIONS

**Allegory:** A story in which the primary elements all symbolize something else. The parable of The Tares is allegorical (Mat 13.24-30; 36-43), and we know this because Jesus explained the symbols. *Only 9 of the 41 parables are particularly allegorical.*

**Interpretation:** A summary of what a text says, according to the author's intent. Generally, there is only one correct interpretation of a biblical text.

**Applications:** Taking the interpretation of a text and translating it into an appropriate response to a real life situation. There can be *many* applications of a single biblical text and its interpretation, though the *first* application will be suggested by the original context.



## Matthew (ESV)

- 25.1 “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
- 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
- 3 For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,
- 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
- 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept.
- 6 But at midnight **there was a cry**, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’
- 7 Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.
- 8 And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’
- 9 But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’
- 10 And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.
- 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’
- 12 But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not **know** you.’
- 13 Watch therefore, for you **know** neither the day nor the hour.

**This parable is *not* allegorical; the virgins are just young women, the oil does not symbolize the Holy Spirit.** However, the parable *is* analogical; the bridegroom is like Jesus at His second coming, and the marriage feast is like the marriage of the Lamb (Rev 19.7-8).

**According to this parable**, a wise person will

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**Remember that every wisdom teaching confronts us with the two ways, the way of the LORD and**



**the way of the fool.** What are the two ways with which the parables of the treasure and the pearl confront us?

What are the two ways with which the parable of the ten virgins confronts us?

### PERSONAL APPLICATION

**J**esus said, “I send you prophets and wise men and scribes (= scholars) ...” (Mat 23.34). Will I wisely become a person who is well-prepared for the job God has given me?