

Parables

Matthew 13:1-9 NIV - The Parable of the Sower

¹³ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

Robert Farrar Capon, Jesus used parables “not to explain things to people’s satisfaction but to call attention to the unsatisfactoriness of all their previous explanations and understandings.”

Matthew 13:11-12 NIV “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.”

hear Greek, akouo “ak-oo’-o” *to attend to, consider, understand, perceive, and by hearing, to learn.*

The parables of Jesus are about three main things:

1. Revealing who He is; the Messiah come to bring the Kingdom of heaven to earth
2. Revealing what the Kingdom of heaven is like once it’s realized on earth
3. Revealing the decision people must make in their hearts about Jesus and His kingdom

The Parable of the Growing Seed: Mark 4:26–29 NIV “All by itself the soil produces grain – first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

The Parable of the Mustard Seed: “yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” (Mat. 13:31-32, Mar 4:30-32, Luk 13:18-19)

It's not our place to judge one another, only to trust that God will sort it all out in the end.

The Parable of the Weeds: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 NIV

The Parable of the Net: Matthew 13:47-50 NIV

“The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.” Matthew 13:41

Matthew 13:19-23 NIV – Meaning of the Parable of the Sower

¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

John 17:15-19 NIV “not that He takes us out of the world... but He sends us into the world [sanctified by the truth!]” *pp*

Matthew 4:17 NIV “From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

near Greek, engizo *coming near, drawing near, or almost here.*

Heaven and earth, the old and the new creation are not separate, and they were never meant to be separated.

What happened all those 2000 years ago is still happening through the person of Jesus.