

# **NEW TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY**

## **MATTHEW – PART SIX**

### **The Parables**

#### **Lesson 6**

*Biblical-Literacy.com*

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# What is a Parable?

Take something ordinary and use it  
to teach a lesson

# What is a Parable?

- Greek -- *parabole*

“To Set Beside”

“To Compare”

- Greek Rhetoric -- Compare One Thing to Another to Make a Point

# Why Did Jesus Use Parables?

- We Relate To and Understand Stories
- Old Testament Prophecy

“I will open my mouth in parables”

Psalm 78:2

- A Difficult Answer:

# Why Did Jesus Use Parables?

*The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you but not to them... This is why I speak to them in parables: 'Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.' In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'* (Isaiah 6:9-10).

# Characteristics of the Kingdom

# The Parable of the Sower

## 13:1-23

1. Path
2. Rocky Soil
3. Thorns
4. Good Soil



Millet 1850

# The Parable of the Sower

## 13:1-23

1. Path -- Birds Eat
2. Rocky Soil -- Sprout Fast  
Wither
3. Thorns -- Choked
4. Good Soil -- 30 - 100x





# The Parable of the Sower

## 13:1-23

1. Path -- Birds Eat  
Hear - Don't Believe
2. Rocky -- Sprout Fast  
Soil Wither  
Joy - Fall Away
3. Thorns -- Choked  
Unfruitful - Worries, \$
4. Good Soil -- 30 - 100x  
Accept, Grow, Thrive



# Parable of the Weeds (13:24-30)

- Good Seed / Sleep / Weeds
- Wait to Pull
- Sower = Son of Man
- Field = World
- Enemy = Devil
- Harvest = End of Age
- Harvesters = Angels



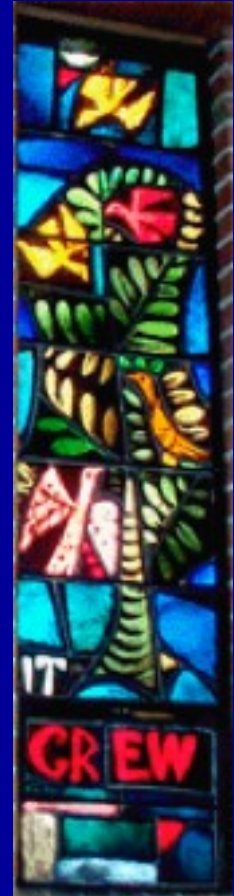
Fetti Early 1600's

# Parable of Mustard Seed (13:31-35)

- Kingdom of Heaven Like Mustard Seed
- Small to Sow -- Large to Grow

First Pres.

Boise, Idaho

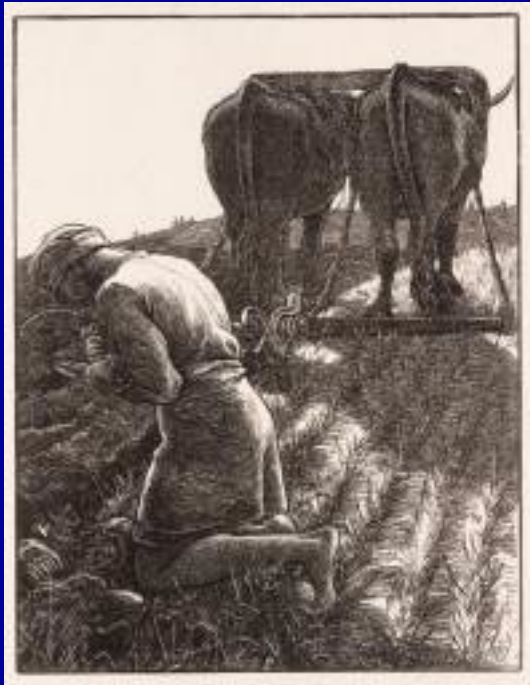


# Parable of Yeast

- A Little Goes a Long Way

# Hidden Treasure, Pearl, Net

James Janknegt 2000



Millais 1864





# Parable of the Lost Sheep (18:10-14)

- Care for Children
- 99 / 100
- Greater Joy
- Children are Greatest in Kingdom



Pitt Library 1712

# Unmerciful Servant (18:21-35)

- Ever Been Wronged?
- Millions - Forgiven
- Few Bucks - No Mercy
- Forgiveness Flows Both Ways



Drost 1655

# Vineyard Workers (20:1-16) (Entry to the Kingdom)



Rembrandt 1637



# 3 Authority Parables

# Parable of Two Sons (21:28-32)



Ian  
Pollack

2000

# Parable of Two Sons (21:28-32)



NO!!!  
[Then Goes]

Okay!!!  
[Doesn't Go]

Go to work!

Ian  
Pollack

2000

# Parable of Tenants (21:33-46)

- Servants - Killed
- Servants - Killed
- Son - Killed
- Owner - Retribution
- Psalm 118:22-23 “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone.”

# Wedding Banquet 22:1-14



Merian the Elder 1625-30



# Ten Virgins (25:1-13)

Get Ready!



William Blake

1822

# Parable of Talents (25:14-30)



Ian Pollack 2000

# Points For Home

1. Be Good Soil
2. Don't Be deceived by Riches or Worries
3. Watch Out For Children
4. Forgive
5. Jesus Has Authority
6. Be Ready; He will Return
7. Use Your Gifts