

**The Gospels**  
**Part Four: The Parables of Christ**

- I. TWO HOUSES IN A HURRICANE (MT. 7:24-27; LK. 6:43-49).
  - A. The unshakable house of the farsighted man (Mt. 7:24-25).
  - B. The unstable house of the foolish man (7:26-27).
  
- II. FORGIVING THE FIFTY AND THE 500 (LK. 7:36-50).
  - A. The background of the parable. Christ's feet had been anointed by a brokenhearted harlot as he sat at dinner with Simon the Pharisee, who secretly condemned the Savior for allowing this action.
  - B. The reason for the parable.
    - 1. To show the corruptness of the Pharisee's heart.
    - 2. To show the correctness of the prostitute's heart.
  - C. The nature of the parable (7:41-42).
  - D. The answer to the parable (7:43).
  - E. The application of the parable (7:44-46).
  - F. The results of the parable.
    - 1. The prostitute is cleansed (7:48).
    - 2. The Pharisees are confused (7:49).
  
- III. SUBDUING THE STRONG MAN (MT. 12:22-37; MK. 3:22-30).
  - A. The unreasonable charge (Mt. 12:22, 24).
  - B. The unanswerable defense (12:25-26, 29).
  - C. The unpardonable sin (12:31-32).
  
- IV. THE SOVEREIGN SOWER (MT. 13:3-8, 18-23; MK. 4:4-8, 15-20; LK. 8:5-8, 12-15).
  - A. The information in this parable. A sower (Christ) casts seed (the Word of God) upon four kinds of soil.
    - 1. Roadside soil (Mt. 13:4; Mk. 4:4; Lk. 8:5).
    - 2. Shallow rocky soil (Mt. 13:5-6; Mk. 4:5-6; Lk. 8:6).
    - 3. Thorn-infested soil (Mt. 13:7; Mk. 4:7; Lk. 8:7).
    - 4. Fertile soil (Mt. 13:8; Mk. 4:8; Lk. 8:8).
  - B. The interpretation of this parable.
    - 1. The roadside soil (Mt. 13:19; Mk. 4:15; Lk. 8:12).
    - 2. The shallow rocky soil (Mt. 13:20-21; Mk. 4:16-17; Lk. 8:13).
    - 3. The thorn-infested soil (Mt. 13:22; Mk. 4:18-19; Lk. 8:14).
    - 4. The fertile soil (Mt. 13:23; Mk. 4:20; Lk. 8:15).
  
- V. THE SECRET OF THE SEED (MK. 4:26-29).
  
- VI. SATAN'S TARES IN THE SAVIOR'S FIELD (MT. 13:24-30, 36-43).
  - A. The information in this parable (13:24-30).
  - B. The interpretation of this parable (13:36-43).
  
- VII. THE MIGHTY MUSTARD SEED (MT. 13:31-32; MK. 4:30-32; LK. 13:18-19).
  
- VIII. THE COOK'S LEAVEN AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (MT. 13:33).
  
- IX. FINDING A FORTUNE IN A FIELD (MT. 13:44).
  
- X. THE PRICE OF A PEARL (MT. 13:45-46).
  
- XI. SORTING OUT A SEA CATCH (MT. 13:47-50).
  
- XII. A TRAINED MAN AND HIS TREASURE (MT. 13:52).
  
- XIII. FEASTING FRIENDS OF THE BRIDGEGROOM (MT. 9:14-15; MK. 2:18-20; LK. 5:33-35).
  
- XIV. A NEW CLOTH ON AN OLD COAT (MT. 9:16; MK. 2:21; LK. 5:36).
  
- XV. FRESH FRUIT AND BROKEN BOTTLES (MT. 9:17; MK. 2:22; LK. 5:37-39).
  
- XVI. A GENERATION OF GRIPERS (MT. 11:16-19; LK. 7:29-35).

- A. The complainers (Lk. 7:30-31).
  - B. The complaint (7:32-34).
- XVII. THE FORGIVEN WHO WOULDN'T FORGIVE (MT. 18:21-35).
- A. Scene one: the master and his servant.
    - 1. The pitiful plea of the servant (18:26).
    - 2. The merciful pardon of the master (18:27).
  - B. Scene two: the servant and his servant.
    - 1. The pitiful request of the lesser servant (18:29).
    - 2. The pitiless reply of the greater servant (18:30).
  - C. Scene three: the master and his servant.
    - 1. The anger of the master (18:31-33).
    - 2. The action of the master (18:34).
- XVIII. HOW TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR (LK. 10:25-37).
- A. The actors involved: a traveler, some robbers, a priest, a Levite, and a Samaritan.
  - B. The action involved:
    - 1. The trip (10:30).
    - 2. The trouble (10:30).
    - 3. The test.
      - a. Flunked by the priest (10:31).
      - b. Flunked by the Levite (10:32).
      - c. Passed by the Samaritan (10:33-35).
  - C. The attitudes involved:
    - 1. Attitude of the thieves: "What is thine is mine."
    - 2. Attitude of the priest and the Levite: "What is mine is mine."
    - 3. Attitude of the Samaritan: "What is mine is thine."
- XIX. THE SPIRITS AND THE SWEEPED HOUSE (MT. 12:43-45; LK. 11:24-26).
- A. The case of reformation without regeneration (Lk. 11:24-25).
  - B. The curse of reformation without regeneration (11:26).
- XX. A FOOL IN A FIX (LK. 12:13-21).
- A. His dilemma (12:16-17).
  - B. His decision (12:18).
  - C. His delusion (12:19).
  - D. His destruction (12:20-21).
- XXI. READINESS VERSUS CARELESSNESS (MT. 24:42-51; LK. 12:35-48).
- A. The rewards of readiness.
    - 1. The rules for readiness (Lk. 12:35-36).
    - 2. The reason for readiness (12:40).
    - 3. The results of readiness (12:37, 43-44).
  - B. The curse of carelessness.
    - 1. How it begins (12:45).
    - 2. How it ends (12:46-48).
- XXII. THE FRUITLESS FIG TREE (LK. 13:6-9).
- XXIII. ON BEING A WINNER AT THE BANQUET DINNER (LK. 14:7-14).
- A. When you attend a dinner: choose the least at the wedding feast (14:7-11).
  - B. When you host a dinner: choose the best for your dining guests (14:12-14).
- XXIV. TWO FOOLS AND A HENPECKED HUSBAND (LK. 14:15-24).
- A. The action of God--first phase (14:16-17).
  - B. The reaction of man.
    - 1. First fool (14:18).
    - 2. Second fool (14:19).
    - 3. Henpecked husband (14:20).
  - C. The action of God--second phase (14:21-24).
- XXV. A MISSING SHEEP, THE MISPLACED SILVER, AND A MISERABLE SON (LK. 15:1-32).

- A. The missing sheep (15:1-7).
  - 1. The actors (15:4-6).
    - a. A lost sheep (percentage involved--one out of a hundred).
    - b. A seeking shepherd (a type of the Son).
    - c. Some joyful neighbors.
  - 2. The action (15:4-6).
  - 3. The heavenly echo (15:7).
- B. The misplaced silver (15:8-10).
  - 1. The actors (objects) (15:8-9).
    - a. A misplaced coin (percentage involved--one out of ten).
    - b. A diligent woman (possible type of the Holy Spirit).
    - c. Some joyful neighbors.
  - 2. The action (15:8-9).
  - 3. The heavenly echo (15:10).
- C. The miserable son (15:11-32).
  - 1. Actors (15:11-32).
    - a. A younger son (percentage involved--one out of two).
    - b. A wise and wonderful father (type of the heavenly Father).
    - c. An older son.
    - d. A pig farmer.
  - 2. Action.
    - a. The younger son.
      - (1) His rebellion (15:12-16).
      - (2) His realization (15:17).
      - (3) His repentance (15:18-21).
      - (4) His restoration (15:22-24).
    - b. The older son.
      - (1) His resentment (15:25-30).
      - (2) His reassurance (15:31-32).

XXVI. THE STEWINGS OF A STEWARD (LK. 16:1-13).

- A. The information in the parable (16:1-8).
  - 1. The crisis (16:1-2).
  - 2. The concern (16:3).
  - 3. The conclusion (16:4).
  - 4. The collection (16:5-7).
  - 5. The commendation (16:8).
- B. The interpretation of the parable (16:9-13).

XXVII. WHEN OUR BEST IS BUT THE LEAST (LK. 17:7-10).

- A. The required actions of a faithful servant (17:7-9).
- B. The required attitude of a faithful servant (17:10).

XXVIII. A WIDOW AND A WEARY JUDGE (LK. 18:1-8).

- A. How persistence was rewarded by a sinful judge (18:1-5).
- B. How persistence is rewarded by the sovereign judge (18:6-8).

XXIX. A HAUGHTY PHARISEE AND A HUMBLE PUBLICAN (LK. 18:9-14).

- A. Two men enter the Temple (18:9-10).
  - 1. The Pharisee--his prayer of arrogance (18:11-12).
  - 2. The publican--his prayer of abasement (18:13).
- B. Two men exit the Temple (18:14).
  - 1. The Pharisee--rejected and excluded by God.
  - 2. The publican--received and exalted by God.

XXX. A DIAGNOSIS OF DEFILEMENT (MT. 15:10-20; MK. 7:14-23).

- A. Defilement explained.
  - 1. What it isn't (Mk. 7:15).
  - 2. What it is (7:17-20).
- B. Defilement exemplified (Mt. 15:12-14).
- C. Defilement exhibited (Mk. 7:21-23).

XXXI. HOURLY WORKERS AND DAILY WAGES (MT. 20:1-16).

- A. The work (20:1).
- B. The wages (20:2).
- C. The work schedule (20:3-7).
- D. The wrath (20:8-12).
- E. The wisdom (20:13-16).

XXXII. TWO SONS WHO REVERSED THEIR ROLES (MT. 21:28-32).

- A. The individuals in the parable:
  - 1. A rebellious son: "I won't go." But he did (21:28-29).
  - 2. A religious son: "I will go." But he didn't (21:30).
- B. The application of the parable (21:31-32).

XXXIII. THE VICIOUS VINE KEEPERS (MT. 21:33-46; MK. 12:1-12; LK. 20:9-19).

- A. The industry (Mk. 12:1).
- B. The accountability (12:3).
- C. The treachery.
  - 1. One servant was beaten and sent away empty handed (12:3).
  - 2. The second servant was wounded in the head and shamefully treated (12:4).
  - 3. The third servant was stoned (Mt. 21:35).
  - 4. The final servant was killed (Mk. 12:5).
- D. The strategy (Lk. 20:13).
- E. The conspiracy (20:14-15).
- F. The ferocity (Mt. 21:40-41).

XXXIV. A WEDDING GUEST WITH NO WEDDING GARMENT (MT. 22:1-14).

- A. The advertisement of the wedding.
  - 1. The original guest list.
    - First invitation.
      - a. The request (22:3).
      - b. The refusal (22:3).
    - Final invitation.
      - c. The request (22:4).
      - d. The ridicule (22:5).
      - e. The ruthlessness (22:6).
      - f. The reprisal (22:7).
  - 2. The expanded guest list (22:8-10).
- B. The embarrassment at the wedding.
  - 1. The problem.
    - a. The guest without a robe (22:11).
    - b. The guest without a reply (22:12).
  - 2. The punishment (22:13-14).

XXXV. THE FIG TREE AND THE FUTURE (MT. 24:32-35; MK. 13:28-31; LK. 21:29-33).

- A. The information in the parable (Mt. 24:32-34).
- B. The interpretation of the parable.
  - 1. The fig tree is Israel.
  - 2. The leaf-bearing event refers to Israel's return to the land during the millennium (spiritual renewal).

XXXVI. VIRGINS, VESSELS, AND VIGILANCE (MT. 25:1-13).

- A. The wait of the guests.
  - 1. The complacent: an absence of oil (25:3).
  - 2. The consistent: an abundance of oil (25:4).
- B. The fate of the guests.
  - 1. The coming of the groom (25:6-7).
    - a. The request of the foolish (25:8).
    - b. The refusal of the wise (25:9).
  - 2. The closing of the room (25:10-13).

XXXVII. A NOBLEMAN, TEN SERVANTS, AND TEN TALENTS (LK. 19:11-27).

- A. The assignment (19:12-13).
- B. The accomplishments.

1. First servant.
  - a. His report (19:16).
  - b. His reward (19:17).
2. Second servant.
  - a. His report (19:18).
  - b. His reward (19:19).
3. Third servant.
  - a. His report (19:20-21).
  - b. His rejection (19:22-26).

XXXVIII.A TRAVELER, THREE STEWARDS, AND EIGHT POUNDS (MT. 25:14-30).

XXXIX. SEPARATING THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS (MT. 25:31-46).

- A. The separator (25:31).
- B. The separation (25:32).
- C. The separated (25:33).
  1. The sheep, "Ye blessed" (25:34).
    - a. The nature of their reward (25:34).
    - b. The basis of their reward (25:35-36).
    - c. The explanation of their reward.
      - (1) Their question (25:37-39).
      - (2) His answer (25:40).
  2. The goats, "Ye cursed" (25:41).
    - a. The nature of their punishment (25:41, 46).
    - b. The basis of their punishment (25:42-43).
    - c. The explanation of their punishment.
      - (1) Their question (25:44).
      - (2) His answer (25:45).