

Some Minor Parables

Week 28 ~ Notes for September 25th

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Background

This week we will consider various short parables spoken by Jesus as recorded by Matthew, Mark and Luke.

Subject	Matt	Mark	Luke	John
Parables of Jesus (2) - Miniatures	13:31-35 13:44-52	4:21-34	8:16-18 13:18-21	

Read this statement from William Barclay, and treat the Preparation below accordingly.

The parable is essentially a sword to stab people's minds awake; and therefore its interpretation can never be that which could be discovered only after long labour in the study. It must be one single truth which the story illuminates which leaps out to meet the listener's mind.

["And Jesus Said", William Barclay, p8](#)

Preparation

Read these parables in the order given - as soundbites - and immediately write down the answers to the questions in the order given. Finish one parable before moving to the next and don't go back and change what you wrote.

1. Mark 4:26-29
What is the key thrust of this parable?
2. Matt 13:31-32, Mark 4:30-32, Luke 13:18-19
How does this inform you regarding the Kingdom of Heaven?
3. Matt 13:33, Luke 13:20-21
What has yeast and making bread got to do with the Kingdom of Heaven?
4. Matt 13:44
Is the "someone" being dishonest?
5. Matt 13:45
What does this tell you about Jesus' audience?
6. Matt 13:47-50
In one sentence, what is Jesus' message in this parable?
7. What picture of the Kingdom of Heaven did YOU get on reading these five parables?
8. Mark 4:21-25, Luke 8:16-18
What is the thrust of Jesus' message here?
9. Matt 13:51-52
What is your answer to Jesus' question? (Be honest!) What might be the "new and old treasure"?
10. Matt 13:34-35, Mark 4:33-34
What might Mark's attitude have been, considering his phrase "as they were able to hear it"? How do you understand/interpret Mark 4 34?