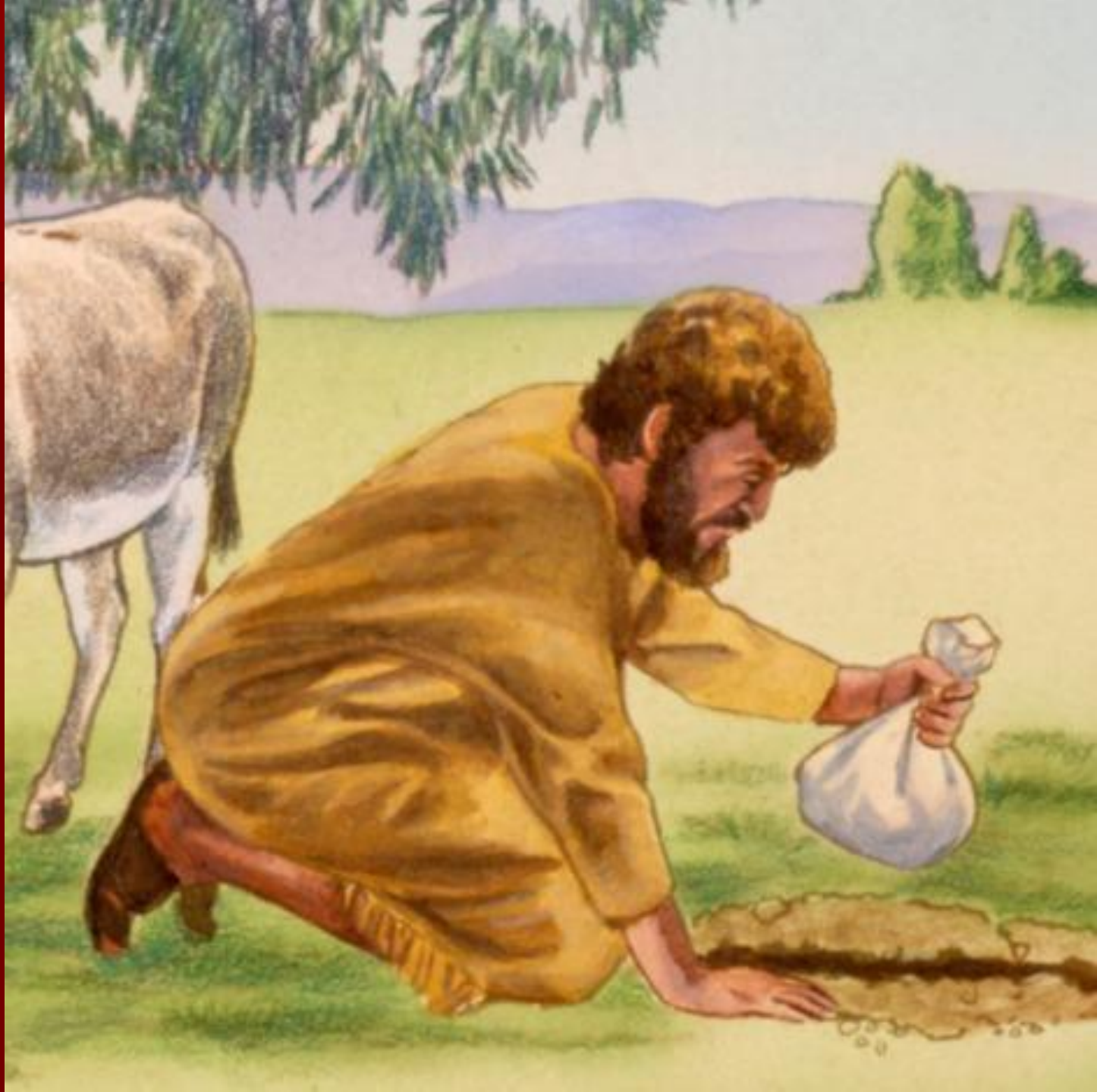


Parable of the Hidden Treasure



Imagery of the Bible

- **Many people feel they understand the Bible, because it is written with:**
 - **Parables**
 - **Symbols**
 - **Similitudes**
 - **Allegories**
 - **Analogies**
- **Why are there so many varying opinions?**

What Is A Parable?

- **Matthew 13:34-35 (Psalm 78:2)**
 - **Parable / Greek “Parabole” / Strong’s #3850**
 - **“Casting or placing side by side”**
 - **“To compare likeness or similitude”**
- **Matthew 13:11**
 - **“To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven...”**
 - **Stories, comparisons and understanding has been granted.**



What Is A Parable?

- A Parable is **not** a straightforward description of an event, just as it occurred or will occur.
- A Parable is intended to be **similar** to a real event or a comparison that has to be **interpreted** to reveal the true meaning .

Power of Parables

- **Parables are a crucial component to spiritual understanding**
- **Create Relevance**
- **Provide Details**
- **Give Mental Images**
- **Motivate Action**



Why Use Parables? Why Not “Just The Facts”?

- **Matthew 13:9-17 (Isaiah 6:9-10)**
 - Jesus Christ *did not* speak in parables to make the meaning clear to just any listener.
- **Isaiah 28:9-13**
 - Similar to Jesus’ explanation of parables, God scatters understanding on any given subject throughout the Bible.

Why Use Parables?

Why Not “Just The Facts”?

■ Mark 4:11-13

- “...To you has been given the mystery of the Kingdom of God, but those who are outside get everything in parables...”**
- The Bible cannot be understood without outside help.**

■ Romans 11:32-33

- According to the Apostle Paul, the meaning is veiled from most of mankind, until God offers them salvation.**

Parables Are Keys To The Kingdom Of God

■ Matthew 13:31-32

- The word of “Kingdom” is *basileia*, in Greek (Strong's #932). The word means, “royal power, kingship, dominion, rule”;
 - “not to be confused with an actual kingdom, but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom”.

Application: Parables Are Keys to the Kingdom of God

- The keys to *open* understanding are contained in Christ. He gives those keys to whom He will.**
- The parables of Jesus are keys to the Kingdom of God, that unlock the knowledge to Life, if we will heed the revealed understanding and warnings of the parables.**

Gospel Accounts: Parable Of The Sower

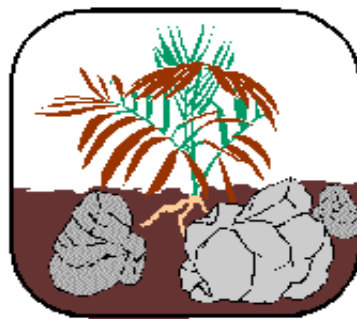
- The parable describes what happens after the seed is sown and the resultant effects of different types of soils.

The Parable of the Sower

The Seed is the Word of God



The Path



The Rocky Soil



The Weedy Soil



The Good Soil

What type of Soil are You?

Is God Growing in Your Heart?

Luke's Account: Parable Of The Sower


■ Luke 8:4-8, 10-15

- Hard Ground / Satan takes away the Word from the heart, causing unbelief and no salvation.
- Stony Ground / Believe for a while, then affliction or persecution arises, because of the Word.
- Thorns / Worries of the age, deceitfulness of riches and pleasures of this life, enter in and chokes the Word.
- Good Soil / Hear in a honest and good heart, hold it fast and bear fruits of the Word, with perseverance.

Life Application: Parables of the Sower

■ II Corinthians 9:6-10

- **Be the Good Soil for the Seed (God's Word) / Hear in a honest and good heart, hold it fast and bear much fruit of the Word, with perseverance.**



“The Laws of
Sowing and
Reaping”

Overview: Parable of the Wheat and Tares

- In this parable, there are two sowers, two kinds of seed and two harvests; one good and one bad.
- In this parable, the field which Jesus says, represents the world, contains all of the soils, from the previous parable, dispersed over its entirety.

Overview: Parable of the Wheat and Tares

- **Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**
 - **Explanation of parable given By Jesus**
 - **Sower of the good seed = Jesus Christ**
 - **Field = the world**
 - **Good Seed = Sons of the kingdom**
 - **Tares = Sons of the evil one**
 - **Enemy = Satan**
 - **Harvest = End of the age**
 - **Reapers = God's angels**

What Could the Two Sowers Represent?

- **Matthew 13:37, 39**
 - The “Owner” of the field is Son of Man / Jesus
 - The “Enemy” is the “*diabolos*”: the devil, false accuser, slanderer.

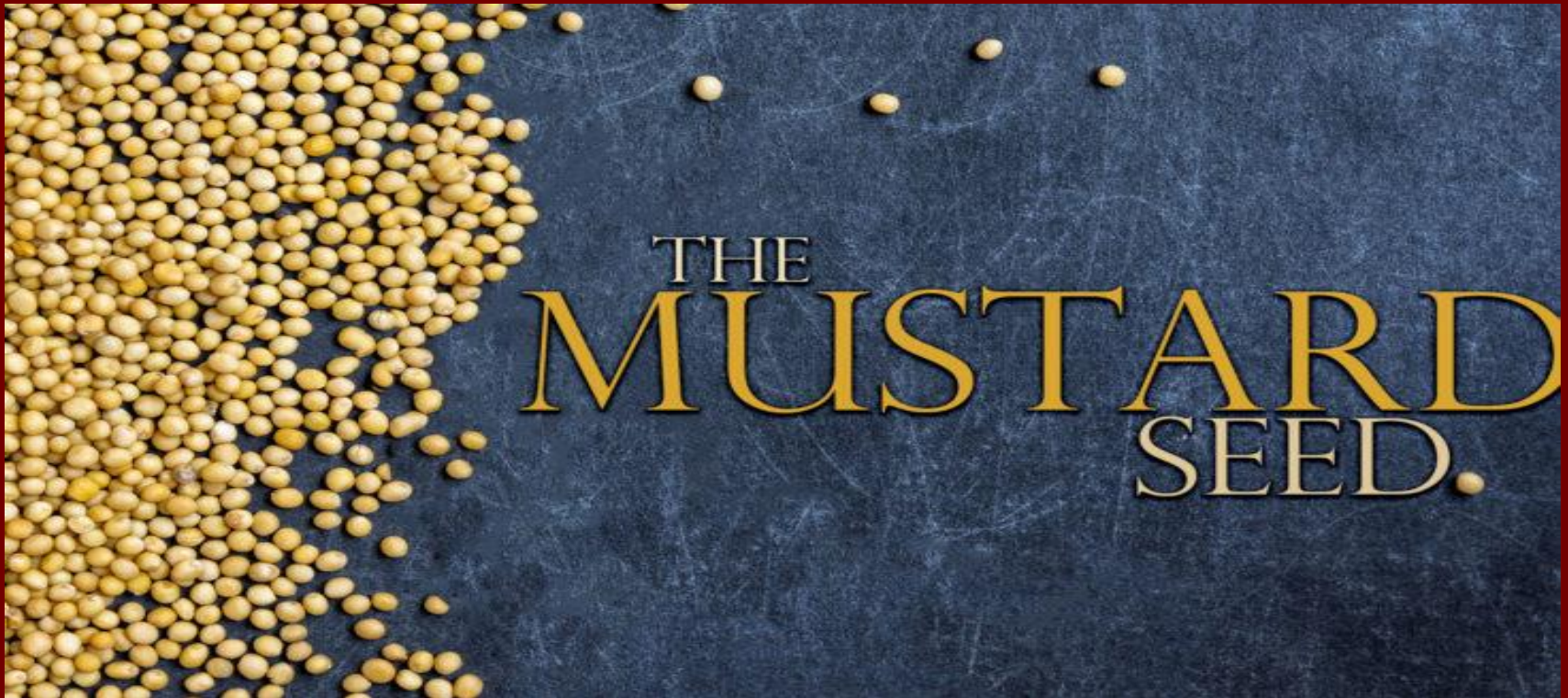


Life Application: Parables of the Wheat and Tares

- Christ's parable warns us not only to take great care to avoid the false instruction and attitudes of the tares, but also to be mindful about how we treat young, immature "wheat" that we may mistake for tares. We must be slow to judge, remembering that church members are not all equally converted. Though they may be pure in heart, even the wheat may not always act properly. Likewise, some brethren may always act properly, may always seem to do the right thing, but their hearts remain unconverted or even corrupted.

Gospel Accounts: Parable Of The Mustard Seed

- The parable describes something that starts very small, but grows into something very large.



Life Application: Parables of the Mustard Seed

- **Jesus reveals humble beginnings of the church that experiences explosive growth.**
- **If we make correct choices to be an agent of the rule and kingship of God's Kingdom, we can be part of the grafted cedar from Ezekiel 17?**

Gospel Accounts: Parable Of Leaven

- The parable describes something that starts very small, but grows into something very large.
- Matthew 13:33
- Luke 13:20-21



Life Application: Parables of Leaven

- The Parable of Leaven could be a warning, to those who have put themselves under the rule of the Kingdom of Heaven, by the using of the word “Leaven”, that we cannot allow our thinking to be assimilated to that of the world around us, hypocrisy and unbelief.**
- Sin is often an unseen pervasive evil influence that can spread, in those who have put themselves under the rule of the Kingdom of Heaven, if we are on our guard and continually examining ourselves.**

Gospel Accounts: Parable Of The Hidden Treasure

- The parable describes the preciousness of God's elect in preparation for the coming Kingdom of God and "The Value" of "The Sacrifice".

- **Matthew 13:44**



Overview: Parable Of The Hidden Treasure

- Often this parable's is thought to have the same message or meaning as the Parable of the Costly Pearl. Therefore, these two parables are studied, together.
- Could the parable of the Hidden Treasure actually point something a bit different than the parable of the Costly Pearl? Could the parable of the Hidden Treasure have overtones of the Jesus Christ's sacrifice for the Church and all the world?

Parable of the Hidden Treasure

■ Matthew 13:33

- The word of “Kingdom” is *basileia*, in Greek (Strong's #932). The word means, “royal power, kingship, dominion, rule”; “not to be confused with an actual kingdom, but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom”.

■ Matthew 13:38

- Field = the world

Parable of the Hidden Treasure

■ Matthew 13:44

- “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”
- The word of “Treasure” is *thesauros*, in Greek (Strong's #2344). The word means, “treasure”.
 - Biblical Usage – “the place in which good and precious things are collected and laid up”

Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- **What does the treasure hidden in a field represent?**
- **In the Old Testament: God called Israel His "Special Treasure"**
 - **Exodus 19:5** - Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.
 - **Psalm 135:4** - For the Lord has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His special treasure.
 - **Malachi 3:16-17** - Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, And the Lord listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the Lord And who meditate on His name. They shall be Mine," says the Lord of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him."

Parable of the Hidden Treasure

- **What does the treasure hidden in a field represent?**
- **In the New Testament: God's Elect are His "Special People"**
 - **I Peter 2:9-10- But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him."**
- **Galatians 6:15-16**
 - **"For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation...those who will walk (follow) by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God."**

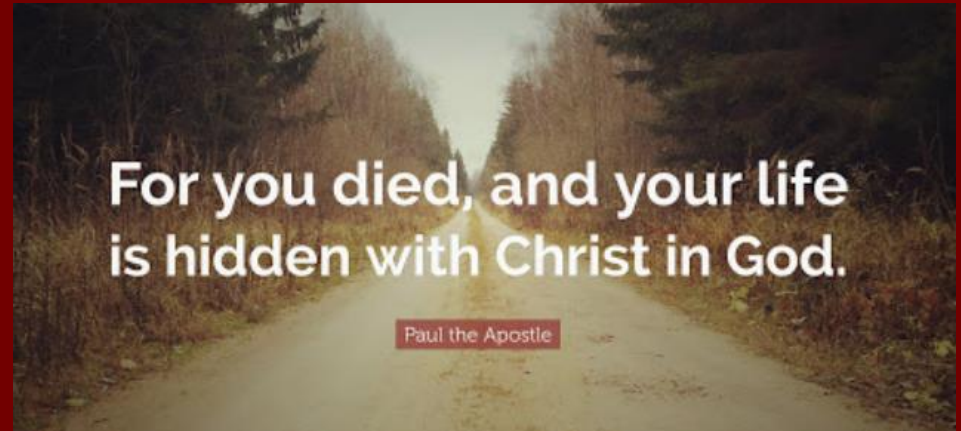
Parable of the Hidden Treasure

■ Are We Hidden In Christ?

■ Colossians 3:3

■ John 1:9-10

■ John 17:11, 17



John 1:9-10 (NASB)

There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

John 17:11

I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, protect them by Your name that You have given Me, so that they may be one as We are one.

Parable of Hidden Treasure

- "... joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."
- Jesus gave His all, the Ultimate Sacrifice – His Life and His Blood for:
 - John 3:16-17
 - Acts 20:28
 - Revelation 19:7
 - Romans 8:34
 - Hebrews 4:14-16
 - Hebrews 9:24



GROUP DISCUSSION

