



**KEYS OF
THE
KINGDOM**

Power of Parables

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

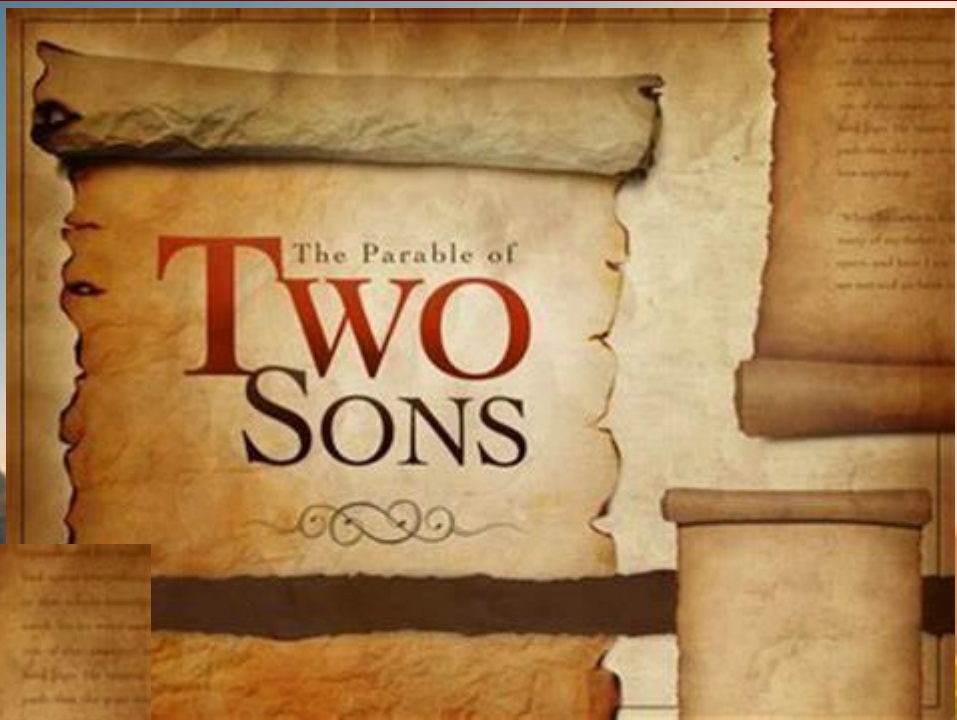


Parable Reminders

- A Parable is **not** a straightforward description of an event, just as it occurred or will occur.
- A Parable is a **casting or placing side by side** to a real event or **to compare likeness or similitude** to reveal the true meaning by interpretation .

The Laborers in the Vineyard

Matthew 20:1-16



STORIES
THAT
CHANGED
THE
WORLD

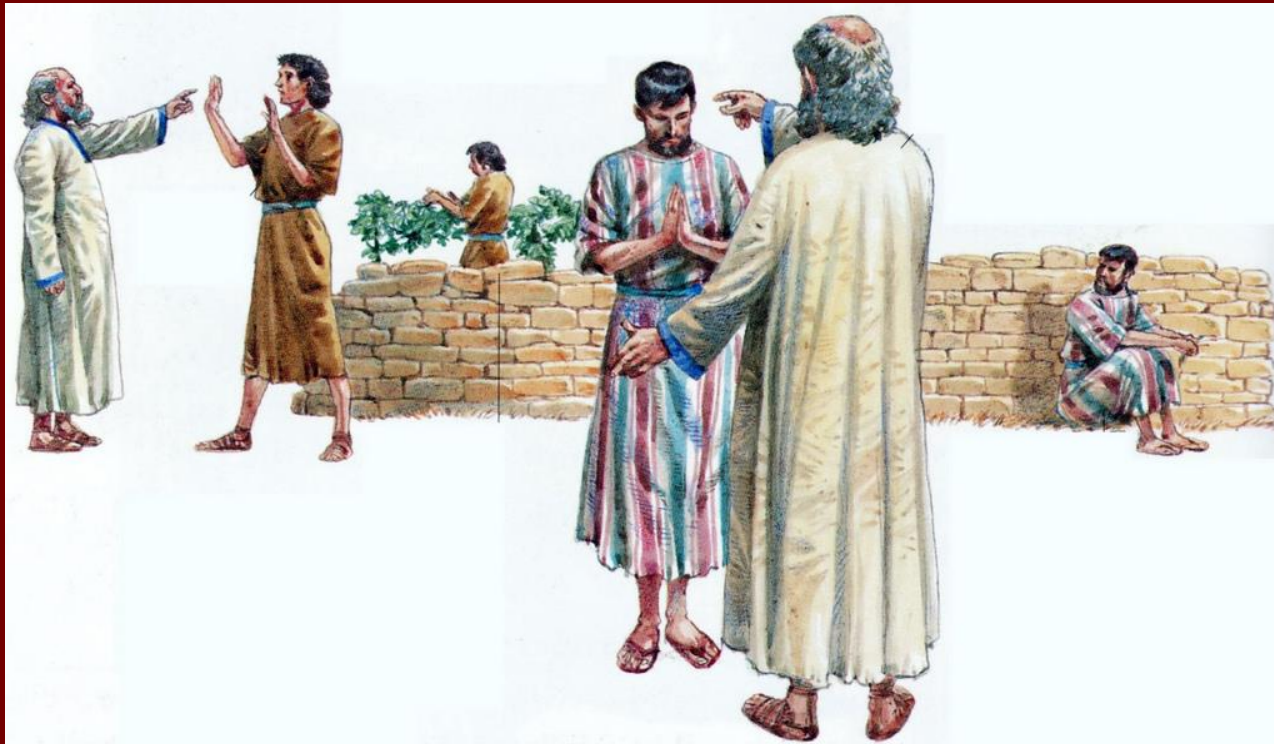
Context: Parable of Two Sons & Parable of the Landowner

- **Matthew 21:23-27 (Mark 11:27-33 & Luke 20:1-8)**
 - Chief Priest and Elders in the Temple challenged Jesus' authority to teach.
 - Jesus answers a question with a question
 - "Was the baptism of John from heaven or from men? Answer Me."
 - "Heaven" was a common Jewish term for God, often substituted for the divine name to avoid possible misuse of it. Jesus' question could implied that His authority, like John baptism, came from God.
 - Priests sent people to challenge John the Baptist's baptisms (John 1:19-25) and Jesus' authority (John 2:18-22)

Parable Of Two Sons

■ Matthew 21:28-32

- Parable of the Two Sons
- Appearances can be deceiving, as religious leaders were offended by Jesus Christ reaching out to outcasts of society.



Parable Of Two Sons

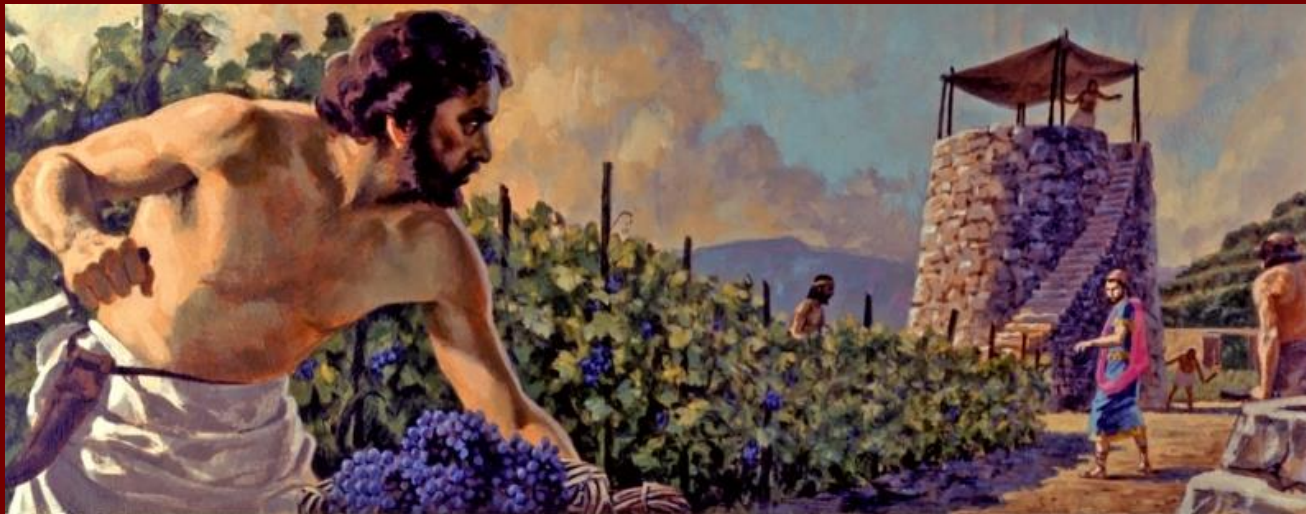
■ James 1:22

- “But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.”
- In the parable, Jesus appears to highlight the fact that doing the will of the father is more than simply a matter of words. It is primarily a matter of deeds. It is one thing to say one will do the will of the father; it is another thing actually to do it.
- A warning to us is not be a child of God, who promises to work, then neglects to keep his word. We must live God’s will daily and depend upon His strength.



Parable Of The Landowner

- **Matthew 21:33-46 (Mark 12:1-11; Luke 20:9-18)**
 - Jewish law required foreign landowners to send representatives to their vineyard, annually, or lose claim to the fruit and right to ownership.
 - Heir had the legal right to act and take legal actions, on behalf of the landowner.



Parable Of The Landowner

■ Matthew 21:33-46 (Mark 12:1-11; Luke 20:9-18)

- The parable appears to point to God's desire to see spiritual fruit from His people.
- Psalm 80:8-15 / Isaiah 5:1-7 gives us insight to the vineyard, as a close parallel parable.
- Romans 7:4 - " Likewise, my brethren, you have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead in order that we may bear fruit for God."
- Possible implications for the church; If the church fails to produce fruit, it cannot presume on its privileged position



Parable Of The Landowner

- **Matthew 21:33-46 (Mark 12:1-11; Luke 20:9-18)**
 - **Psalm 118:22-23 / The cornerstone—Jesus Christ—is the foundation of God's Temple, the church, but the builders rejected it because Jesus did not "fit" their preconceived idea of the Messiah. Even though the Jews rejected Jesus, God overruled them and made Him "the chief cornerstone," an act proven to be God's doing by the resurrection and the subsequent miraculous founding of the church.**
 - **Verses 43-44 / Jesus alludes to Himself as the Stone and describes the escalating consequences of opposing Him. Those who oppose Him out of ignorance or weakness will suffer harm, but if they willfully reject Christ, the Stone will crush them into dust and scatter them in the wind.**

GROUP DISCUSSION

