

The Purpose of Parables Part 2

So earlier we were going over the principles of parable teaching or the methodology of approaching scriptures using parables.

Some of the things we looked at, are the basic ways we approach Bible studies. Most would agree, from other churches like the SDA, that we would look at **Historical Contrast** and **Scriptural Context** maybe they might look at **Original Intent**, what the author was trying to say then and we put in it in some kind of dispensation.

But if we were specifically looking at parables; we saw that parables are stories with a Spiritual hidden meaning. Or they are a natural story to explain a spiritual lesson. And in its basic form a parable is a similitude or a comparison, so your putting 2 things together to learn something more, about something.

So thats the reason why your putting it next to something, is to compare and contrast to find out more information. and so if we look at that as a destination of parable teaching, then really the methodology of parable teaching is Compare and Contrast, Juxtaposition, Natural to Spiritual, Repeat and Enlarge, And Chiasm., Because they are all basically saying the same thing. There all saying Compare and Contrast. Which is Line upon Line, as well as progression.

And these are rules we are looking for when we approach a passage, in the Bible or SOP. We are going to use this as a mechanism to dissect this passage.

of (CTr 236.2). This was written in 1900, We are looking at what EGW says about parables. COL Was also written in 1900.

1.)The Lord has a work to do in our world, but He will not trust His work in the hands of people who know nothing of the Bible or of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.

2.)The Lord presents in parables the rise and progress of the work that results from the preaching of His Word, the present truth for this time.

3.) He brings before us the fashioning of a church that shall stand before the world as chosen and faithful.

The parable of the sower shows the manner in which we should work. The work of the gospel ministry is the sowing of the seed.... { CTr 236.2}

1.) So looking at the paragraph can you summarize it in 2-3 words. This is about the work of God. Breaking down this sentence The **work** is on one side.

The first sentence; The Lord has a work to do in our world, 2.)1.)but He will not **trust His work in the hands of people** who know nothing of the 2)Bible or the Mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven.

So we got that by compare and contrast. He is showing us who He will use and who He won't. It says who He can't use, but we are saying who He will use. He says He cant trust those who don't know the Bible or the MKH.

Second Sentence, 1.)"The Lord presents in parables, the rise and progress of the work that **results** in 2.)preaching His word, the present truth for this time".
Work

There is a cause and effect in this Like making a cake, if you mix these ingredients together you get a cake. Cause and Effect. This work is giving us more information of whats going to be done.

2.) what does it mean the Lord **Presents**? (teach), You have to understand what the words mean. to pick up what the writer is saying, and if they use other words in more of their narrative that are the same. to see if there is a repeat and enlarge going on.

presents means to "set before or place". So the Lord sets before us in parables.
1.) The rise and progress of the work.

2.) Then it says results from the 2.) preaching of the word = the PT for this time.

So there is more details of what that word is. Whats the word? But if you do a repeat and enlarge it will show you the word. in the same column. Using compare and contrast, paralleling;

In the fist you have people who know something, and people who are preaching something.

- 1) know the Bible
- 2) know the Mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven.

We picked out the word, 1.) **work**. and we are looking at, 2.) **presents**

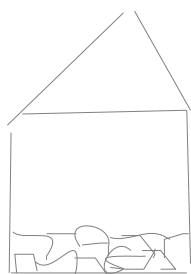
He has a work to do, and has a people who will do the work.

The last sentence, 1.) "He **brings** before us the **fashioning** of the church
 2.) that shall stand before the world as chosen and faithful".

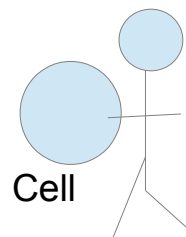
This is about the work of God.

1) <u>The work:</u>	2) How (the work is done, By whom) What it looks like:
The Lord has <u>a work</u> to do in our world.	trust the work In the <u>hands of</u> people who
	1) know the Bible. ↻
	2) Know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven ↻
The Lord presents, in <u>parables</u> the <i>rise & progress of the work</i> <u>effect</u>	cause 1) that results from the <i>preaching of the word = the present truth for this time</i>
He brings before us the <u>fashioning</u> of a <u>church</u> = work	that shall stand before the world as chosen and faithful

The rise and fashioning (Building) of the church. The **rise and progress (work)** of the church is the **fashioning** of the church, same as build something or to make something. The rise and progress tells you how it is made. So you have the history of the rise and progress of the church = **Work**



we are the stone. But we are also the builders.



So the people in the second column; have a message they are giving. That will result in the first column in the building of this church, or structure.

They're giving instructions, in a message, On building the church. Because what they preach results in the first column, the rise and progress of the work. Something being formed, done, accomplished. Or the rise and progress of something here in the first column, and I'm saying its the church thats being built, their given instructions on how to fashion this church.

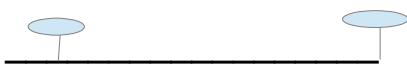
We are the stone. We are also the builders, and at the same time there are different builders; the Levites and the Nethanim that are also the builders. He needs people are chosen and faithful, who are now going to build this church. but at the same time are also building themselves. The priests are giving this message, but they are also part of the first column.

This is the complexity of parable teaching that we see in a lot of the parables that we identify the individuals as part of the structure that are doing the work. But the work it's self is done in the individual.

And this is what the scaleability is in the parables. It's dealing with the people who are doing the work, and that is the work. And thats what this problem is trying to describe the work in the world which is the fashioning this church. He wants a group of people, He wants a body of people. But at the same time as them understanding the work they are doing, is actually doing the work in them.

So as you give this message, as you know the Bible and the Mystery of the Kingdom of Heaven, you're better able to reflect His character, to become chosen and faithful. and stand before the world and you are becoming part of His church.

So we have that picture with Paul, Paul is a stone in the church. But he's bringing stones to the church structure, as he witnesses and evangelizes to the people, and it is growing. I think this is the same model if we can conceptualize it as what we said about sanctification.



So on one level, Sanctification is constant. This vessel that is fit for Holy purpose, is the same vessel at the end. Its that inanimate object.

So you start out, and your chosen here and you commit your self to God, where ever we mark that at 9/11 rebirth, your a sanctified vessel now, and Gods going to use you. In this history as a sanctified vessel to work for Him.

Then there is the idea that sanctification is a growth process that it's also a living organism that is growing, as you do the work your growing, but at the same the time you stay constant.

I think that's what's happening here, at the church building. You are the one doing the **work**, and you can see the purpose of the work that your doing is the preaching, using parables.

You are preaching the word, and understanding the Mystery of the kingdom of Heaven. Is the forming of you as an individual structure, and as you do that you reach out to others. They become part of that structure and it grows. And that's the building and fashioning of the church. Until it finally stands as a group at the end, **chosen and faithful**. But at every stage is a chosen and faithful. The people themselves become the work. The fact that the people who do the work are the work.

We are the people and, We making a cake with these ingredients. They are doing a work with the tools and ingredients and it produces this entity (The Cake). And the complexity is, we are part of the cake. So we are making the ingredients and doing all this stuff, because the ingredients are the people. We are mixing with the people, we our selves are changing in that process, and the people are changing. And together we are making a cake. So by the time we all get to the end result we are all standing together in a cake.

And that's the problem we got, is that we are the builders and we are the building. We are the ingredients, and we are the cake. And I think that's what the Lord is trying to teach us with this. It's a very deep paragraph.

God is showing you that at the end of it, that these are the people who are chosen and faithful. because a church as a building, if we just make it a building, it can't be chosen and faithful, it has no ability to be faithful. it's just a structure. but when you add in people (make the cake with the people) now chosen and faithful, they have to do something there, they have to stand before the world in this condition. and this is the end result of this. Of this rise and progress of the work.

1.)The Lord has a work to do in our world, but He will not trust His work in the hands of people who know nothing of the Bible or of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.

2.)The Lord presents in parables the rise and progress of the work that results

from the preaching of His Word, the present truth for this time.

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So this parable, shows you details, this work that's going to be done by the people, and what it will look like in the end. And so in the very instructions of those parables is the ability to do the work.

The ability to produce that thing, and this is what we've got to wrestle with really, it's hard to wrap our brain around it. That you are the builder, but you are also the building.

You are the ingredients, and you're also the cake, and this is what we find we know this concept because we've have seen it in parallels. So in the Parable of the 10 Virgins for example we have the virgins, and they go forth to meet the Bride groom. And then this voice at Midnight says "Behold the Bride Groom comes forth".

Who is that? When the wise and foolish Virgins, are all there asleep. And we say that's the church, made up of Wheat and tares, wise and foolish. And then another voice comes in and says "Behold the bride groom cometh" who is that voice?

So there is this complexity happening that there is this people and there is someone else who is now going to build these people, who do the work, and be this builder or however we can conceptualize that. But they are part of the group.

Because we say those are wise virgins giving that call. And It's like **Jeremiah** who had to separate the precious and the vile. but he's part of the precious, he's another voice.

Another example. Matt 25 The 10 Virgins, who gives the cry?.

As we are doing this work of preaching and teaching we are building the structure we are doing a work outside of ourselves, so we are doing a work in us, on an individual level but it's also doing a work on a concept level as a church. So He wants you to be ready as an individual. Cells is are another way of looking at it, We used the stones as an example.

Each one of us, is a cell. Cells breath, they are living organisms they grow they

can eat, and drink and feed just like us. So there is this idea that they are a living structure with in a bigger structure (The Body). And they are part of the body. And this is the church. So each one of us, is a living cell. And as we function as part of that church, we are building and the church, strengthening the body. We're contributing to the whole structure as well as improving ourselves, and being more helpful.

And so thats why this is so complex, it is trying to show us these 2 things. He wants to show you are the work, He wants to do a work in you, He wants to transform you into the image of Jesus. But he also wants you to be apart of the bigger structure that reflects the image of Jesus as well. And thats the work he wants you to do, as you do that work, as you have an understanding of the (Graph). You see this rise and progress, you see this compare and contrast in the stories in the Bible, as you study them and teach..They are doing something to you, to produce the character of Christ, and they are doing something in the world to attract others to join you.

So this is powerful, and we really need to wrap our minds around it. Thats how This graph, the **Work**) is the instructions. And other side **How the work is done by whom**) The instructions are giving on how to build this- the, **Work**)

This is about the work of God.

<u>The work:</u>	How (the is done, By whom) What it looks like:
The Lord has a work to do in our world.	trust the work <u>people</u> In the <u>hands of</u> them who
	1) know the Bible.
	2) Know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven
The Lord presents, in <u>parables</u> the rise & progress of the <u>work</u> <u>effect</u>	cause 1) that results from the preaching of the <u>word</u> = the present truth for this time
He brings before us the <u>fashioning</u> of a church= work	that shall stand before the world as chosen and faithful

To stretch our minds to see whats going on here- column 1). Because we can also see over here column 2), the "Mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven" And we can see thats the parables from the Bible, the parables **are** the Mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven. This is what the people understand over here who are doing the preaching, **Work**. They understand these parables which talk about the **rise and purpose** of this work. And the more they understand about the **rise and progress of the work** the better equipped they are to do the **work**, because they understand more about how God operates, and how He works in the world. And then in that process of studying, those instructions, (the parables) they become much more prominent in the work they have to do.

You can say they are **chosen and faithful**, and now they are ready to do a work for the world. But the way the paragraph is formed is saying He has a work to do in our world, and that work is to fashion the church. Thats what the work is, and that work is continuing all time, different generations, and different times.

Now there is a present truth for each time period, and so it's going through more time periods. It will give more details about the fact that its the same message on one level, but its the present truth for that generation, on another level that He is going to do that work.

So its giving us more information, perhaps about our time. But the general structure of it is saying this is the work that has to be done. Its the forming of the a church, And then you conceptualize when it goes before the world, you are going to call out those people who will become part of the church.

Even as it stands before the world chosen and faithful, the people will be coming into it. But that work is not finished, the church is still being formed.

End.

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