

Week 42: The Parables of Jesus

- The House Built on the Rock – Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 6:46-49
- The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:25-37
- The Friend at Midnight – Luke 11:5-13
- The Rich Fool – Luke 12:16-22
- The Barren Fig Tree – Luke 13:6-9

Parables of Jesus

Parable—1

The House Built on the Rock

Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 6:46-49

- ✦ The Word of Christ is the only foundation for faith. Rejection of Christ's Word brings destruction.
- ✦ *Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock (Matthew 7:24-25).*
- ✦ *But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall (Matthew 7:26-27).*

Parable—2

The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

- ✦ Jesus loved us and came to rescue us when we were fallen and helpless, and considered Him to be a foreigner, stranger, and even our enemy. This parable teaches us the meaning of Christ's work for us as fulfillment of the word, "*Love your neighbor as yourself.*" Who is my neighbor? The one whom I consider to be my enemy.
- ✦ *A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest ... Likewise a Levite, ... came and looked, and passed by on the other side (vs. 30-32).*
- ✦ *But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, "Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you" (vss. 33-35).*

Parable—3

The Friend at Midnight

Luke 11:5-13

- ✦ If a friend will give you what you ask of him, *not* because he is your friend, but because you pester him with your need, how much more can the Lord, who loves you with an everlasting love, be relied upon to give you the Holy Spirit and faith?
- ✦ The Christian prays to God incessantly, not because his persistence makes God act, but because of the Lord's love and His promises to help. The Lord promises the Christian daily bread, forgiveness of sins, rescue from temptation and the power of the devil. His promises are based upon His love, not our worthiness. This parable teaches us with what faith we pray the Lord's Prayer.
- ✦ *Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him"; and he will answer from within and say, "Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you"?* (vss. 5-7).
- ✦ *I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs* (vs. 8).
- ✦ *So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened* (vs. 9-10).
- ✦ *If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?* (vss. 11-12).
- ✦ *If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!* (vs. 13).

Parable—4

The Rich Fool

Luke 12:16-22

- ✦ A god is whatever we look to, trust in, or rely upon as the most important thing in our lives. This parable warns us that covetousness is a threat to faith in Christ.
- ✦ *The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, "What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?" So he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry'"* (vss. 16-19).
- ✦ *But God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?"* (vs. 20).

- ✦ The Lord is long-suffering, gracious, and merciful to sinners, desiring all to be brought to repentance and faith. This parable teaches us that, though the Lord is patient in His preaching and teaching of the Gospel, the Day of Judgment, when the unbelieving will be cut off, will come.
- ✦ *A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, "Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?"* (vss. 6-7).
- ✦ *But he answered and said to him, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down"* (vss. 8-9).

