







What have we missed?

- *Why did Jesus teach Parables?*
- *OT context e.g. 1 Sam 25 -> Lk 12*
- *Parable “groups” in Mt & Lk.*
- *Few in Mark, none in John?*
- *Enacted Parables*
- *Still find a few Confusing?*

What else have we missed?

- Missing some Explanations?
- How Radical !
- Living the Kingdom values NOW!
 - How are we at applying Parables in our lives?
- What IS a Parable?

What IS a Parable?

- *Simple story from common life*
- *Captures our attention*
 - *something unexpected!*
- *A story with a deeper meaning*
- *A call to action*

Jesus taught in Parables

- During the middle years, when he shifted from training Disciples to teaching the crowds
- Spies? Lk. 20: 20, Gal 2: 4
- Was he just gaining time
- OR was there a different reason?

Why Jesus taught in Parables

- **What we may think- Mk. 4**
- *Is that our understanding of how Jesus would act?*
- *Nothing hidden, so why?*

- *Reexamine the text-*
 - Mt. 13 'They closed their eyes'
 - Lk. 8 (Diaglott)
 - *Seeing not, they may see*
 - *Hearing not, they may hear*
 - Does this explanation sound more like our Lord?

O. T. background

- *General*

- *Ez. 16- faithless woman*

- *Specific*

- *Ez. 34 corrupt shepherds*

- *”I am the good shepherd”*

- *Proverbs 25: 6- 7, Lk. 14: 8- 10*

Nathan's Parable to David

- What we know about David

- Mighty warrior
- Spiritual & Musical, *a heart for God!*
- From Shepherd to King of Israel
- Great wealth, many wives
- **Not enough? 2X more available !**
- “God's Servant” (9x)

How does this apply to me?

David sins (read 2 Sam 11: 1- 5, 15, 27)

- Idle time
- Wandering eyes/ Lust James 1:14- 15
 - “took her”[by force]
- She conceived [**God used situation**]
- David tried to deceive Uriah, but failed, so he had Uriah killed
- Took Bathsheba as his wife
- This “Displeased the Lord”

- A guilty conscience? How long?
Months! Ps. 32: 3- 4
- Law of Moses offered no help
- Lord sent Nathan to David- **GRACE**
–Nathan's message of salvation
was in the form of a PARABLE!

-Read 2 Sam. 12: 1- 4

2 Sam 12:1-4- The Parable

- Rich man- great flocks & herds
- Poor man- one little female lamb
 - he bought it
 - Raised as one of his children
 - Fed it with his own bread & wine
 - It rested in his bosom as a daughter [= cherished!]

- Traveler- hospitality due
- What did the Rich man do?
 - Unwilling to kill his own lamb
[selfish/ greedy]
 - Killed & ate the Poor Man's lamb
 - [a thief / no compassion!]
 - No 'fellowship offering' here!
 - Disregard for God's word

- Read vv. 5- 6- **David's response**
 - 1st reaction- Kill the rich man!
 - Then a more Godly reaction- (Ex. 22: 1)- Repay 4-fold
 - Because he did it (action)
 - And he had no pity (attitude)

Read vv. 7- 9 **IT IS YOU, DAVID!**

- David had so much from God yet bored/ dissatisfied/ ungrateful/ full of lust
- Scorned the Lord- despised commands: Murder/ Adultery/ Deceit/ Theft
- Betrayed Many (B, U, E, A...)

Confessed & forgiven !

Still... 4 'Consequences' for his sins

1. **War-** because he despised Lord
2. **Evil from his own house**
 - 2 of David's sons **betrayed** him
3. David's wives **Humiliated**
 - As David humiliated B & U

4th Consequence for David's sins

Read 2 Sam.12:14

- NOT “just” adultery & murder
- David a spiritual leader of Israel
- Rom 2:22/ 24 You **say** don't commit adultery, but **you do!** Hypocrisy!
- Even enemies heard what David did
- One result: Gentiles blaspheme God
- Against you alone have I sinned
- Baby dies David's death/ Jesus 4 us

Why such harsh consequences?

- Law given to restrain evil*
- If David got off ‘free’... I will, too!*

Conclusions from today’s studies?

- God brings good from our messes
- *Jesus’ parables followed a clear O.T. pattern*
- Purpose of Parables: Change us!

	Rich Man	His Riches	Poor Man	His Poverty	Traveler	What was stolen & "sacrificed"	Consequences
Nathan's Parable		Very many Flocks & Herds		One special Ewe Lamb he bought & cherished !!!		Rich man unwilling to take his own abundance, stole/ sacrificed/ ate the poor man's lamb	Deserves to die, or at least (according to Ex. 22: 1) repay 4x
	Rich Man	His Riches	Poor Man	His Poverty	Traveler	What was stolen & "sacrificed"	Consequences
Reality	David	King, victory, wealth, wives & up to 2x more available	Uriah	life, integrity, wife	David's Lust (without pity)	Bathsheba's virtue, Uriah's wife & life	Mercy, but with 4 consequences: War, Betrayal from his family, public Shame, child to Die

		PATH	ROCKY PLACES	THORNS	GOOD SOIL
THE DETAILS	A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed,...				
THE MEANING	Sower sows the Word... [some people are like seed Mk 4:15]				