

CHRIST IN HIS PERSON
In the Parables of the New Testament

PARABLES	CONTENTS	SIGNIFICANCE	REFERENCES
1. The Winnower on the Threshing Floor	THE KING'S ANOINTING - RECOMMENDED The winnowing fan in his hand - Gather His wheat (<i>children of God have life within</i>) into the barn Burn the chaff (<i>unrepentant Jews</i>) with unquenchable fire	Baptized by Him in the Holy Spirit – has eternal life Baptized by Him in fire – be put into the lake of fire We who repent and believe in the Lord will be baptized by Him in the Holy Spirit that we may have eternal life .	Matt. 3:1-12
2. The Son of Man with Nowhere to Lay His Head , Unlike the Foxes and the Birds of the Heaven	THE WAY TO FOLLOW THE KING The foxes have holes, and the birds of heaven have roosts, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head . “ Follow Me , and let the dead bury their own dead	The Son of Man did not even have a resting place , as the foxes and birds do In following Him, we must consider the price; there is no material enjoyment We should let go of everything else The Lord encourages us to follow Him. “ Follow Me ” is the solution to all of our problems	Matt. 8:18-22
3. A Physician for the Ill	REJOICING WITH THE SINNERS. Eating with the tax collectors and sinners Those who are strong have no need of a physician , but those who are ill	The tax collectors and sinners were “ patients ,” sick ones the Lord ministered as a physician , not as a judge. We take the standing that we are sinners , we shall experience Him as our Physician , we shall have faith in Him as the One who can heal us	Matt. 9:9-13
4. The Bridegroom with the Sons of the Bridechambers	BEING INCOMPATIBLE WITH RELIGION Sons of the bridechambers cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them	First healed us, then made us sons of the bridechamber . He revealed Himself as the Bridegroom then make us His bride . The Lord Jesus is our Bridegroom for our living enjoyment in His presence. We the sons of the bridechamber will be at a joyful wedding with Him	Matt. 9:14-15

<p>5. The Unshrunk Cloth Not Suitable for Patching an Old Garment</p>	<p>BEING INCOMPATIBLE WITH RELIGION No one puts a patch of unfulfilled cloth on an old garment</p>	<p>Before His crucifixion He was unshrunk cloth, After His resurrection He is the new garment for us to put on. Today the crucified Jesus, our Redeemer and the resurrected Christ, our new garment is our covering as our righteousness before God.</p>	<p>Matt. 9:16 Luke 5:36</p>
<p>6. New Wine Not Able to Be Contained in the Old Wineskin</p>	<p>BEING INCOMPATIBLE WITH RELIGION Put new wine into a fresh wineskins</p>	<p>The new wine of Christ as life requires a new wineskin. We must put the new wine into fresh wineskins-church life. He is our new life to stir us up inwardly to practice the church life with Christ as our content</p>	<p>Matt. 9:17</p>
<p>7. The Lord of the Harvest</p>	<p>THE NEED OF SHEPHERDING AND REAPING The harvest is great, but the workers few</p>	<p>We are the Lord's crop, saved and have received the His life. His kingdom is established with things of life We should pray to the Lord of the harvest, to thrust out workers into His harvest and recognizing that the harvest belongs to Him</p>	<p>Matt. 9:38 Luke 10:2</p>
<p>8. A Teacher above His Disciples, the Lord above His Slaves, and the Master of the House</p>	<p>PERSECUTION AND THE WAY TO MEET IT A disciple is not above the teacher A slave is not greater than his master He is our master; we are His household</p>	<p>We cannot be above Him; we must not expect a better lot. Whoever wants to be first among you shall be your slave We should not harden our heart and purposely disbelieve Him</p>	<p>Matt. 10:20-27 Luke 6:40 John 13:16</p>
<p>9. An Eater and Drinker in the Parable of the Playing Children</p>	<p>LAMENTING AND REPROACHING THE STUBBORN AND UNREPENTANT GENERATION The Son of Man came eating and drinking To preach the gospel of the kingdom To preach repentance</p>	<p>“Played the flute” “did not dance” means – for the joy of salvation “Sang a dirge” “did not beat the breast” means – for the grief of sin. Christ, coming to bring salvation to us sinners and to cause us to rejoice in it, He had the joy of eating and drinking with sinners like us</p>	<p>Matt. 11:16-19</p>
<p>10. The Sower in the Parable of the Sower and of the Tares</p>	<p>THE PRELIMINARY WORK OF THE KINGDOM The Sower went to sow The kingdom of the heaven was likened to a man Sowing good seed in his field He who sow the good seed is the Son of Man</p>	<p>Through incarnation Christ became the seed of life, He sowed Himself as the embodiment of the Triune God. He sowed Himself into our hearts so that He may live in us, grow in us, and be expressed from within us.</p>	<p>Matt. 13:3, 24, 38</p>

<p>11. The Three Measures of Meal in the Parable of Leaven</p>	<p>THE INWARD CORRUPTION OF THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE OF THE KINGDOM The kingdom of the heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal</p>	<p>Three measures make a full meal, for making Meal Offering. Leaven hidden in the meal signifies evil things, pagan practices and mixed teachings</p> <p>The church, as the practicality of the kingdom of the heavens, should have only Christ</p>	<p>Matt. 13:33 Lev. 2:1 Gen. 18:6</p>
<p>12. The Man in the Parable of a Treasure Hidden in the Field</p>	<p>THE KINGDOM HIDDEN IN THE GOD-CREATED EARTH The kingdom of the heavens is like a treasure hidden in the field</p>	<p>The treasure – the kingdom with the true Israel The field – is the earth created by God The treasure hidden in the field – the kingdom The Lord Jesus went to the cross, sell all He had to buy not only the treasure but also the field</p> <p>This kingdom is realized in the church life</p>	<p>Matt. 13:44 Exo. 19:5 Psa. 135:4</p>
<p>13. The Merchant in the Parable of the Pearl-finding</p>	<p>THE CHURCH PRODUCED OUT OF THE SATAN-CORRUPTED WORLD The kingdom of the heavens is like a merchant seeking fine pearl ... he went and sold all that he had and bought it</p>	<p>The pearl – produced in the death waters (<i>the world filled with death</i>) by the living oyster (<i>the living Christ</i>), wounded by a little rock (<i>the sinner</i>) and secreting its life-juice around the wounding rock (<i>the believer</i>) The sea – is the world corrupted by Satan The pearl – refers to the church</p> <p>We need to stay at the cross, remaining at His wound to make us the pearl, the church</p>	<p>Matt. 13:45-46 Isa. 57:20 Rev. 17:15</p>
<p>14. The Bread and the Crumbs in the Parable of the Children’s Bread</p>	<p>THE FAITH OF THE GENTILE WOMAN The Canaanite woman cried out – “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David!” ... “Lord help me.”</p>	<p>The woman considered the Lord, the Son of David. But realizing she was not a child of Israel, she said, “Lord, help me” The Lord Jesus referred to the woman as a little dog. But the woman answered, even the little dogs eat of the crumbs. At that time Christ, after being rejected by the Jews, became “crumbs” under the table as portion to the Gentile</p> <p>We need to take Christ in by eating Him as bread, even as the crumbs under the table</p>	<p>Matt. 15:22-27</p>

<p>15. The Householder in the Parable of the Vineyard</p>	<p>THE REWARD OF THE KINGDOM The householder went out early in the morning to hire workmen for his vineyard... agreed with workmen for a denarius a day. He went out about the third hour...about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and ... the eleventh hour. He paid them same wage each a denarius. Thus, shall the last be the first and the first last</p>	<p>The morning denotes the earliest part of the church age The workmen are the disciples The vineyard is the kingdom The denarius is the reward The Lord's reward to us is not commercial but according to His desire and grace. The reward is act of His goodness. "I am good" The kingdom comes to us from the Lord's gracious giving according to His own will</p>	<p>Matt. 20:1-16 Matt. 19:30</p>
<p>16. The Son of the Householder in the Parable of the Evil Husbandman</p>	<p>THE TRANSFER OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD A householder planted a vineyard and he leased it out to vinedressers... he sent his slaves to the vinedressers to get his fruit... but beat one... killed another... and stoned another. Later he sent to them his son, they cast him out of the vineyard... and killed him</p>	<p>The householder is God The vineyard is the city of Jerusalem The husbandmen are the leaders of the Israelites The slaves are the prophets who suffered persecution The son is Christ being killed outside the city of Jerusalem He died for our sins that we might have eternal life in Him and live through Him</p>	<p>Matt. 21:33-39 Isa. 5:1 Matt. 21:45 Jer. 37:15; Neh. 9:26 2Chron. 24:21 Heb. 13:12</p>
<p>17. The Stone Rejected by the Jewish Builders in the Parable of the Evil Husbandmen</p>	<p>THE TRANSFER OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD The stone which the builder rejected, has become the head of the corner</p>	<p>The stone rejected is Christ for God's building The builders are the Jewish leaders Christ as the living stone as life within us is the building element to hold us together For God's building we need to enjoy and experience Christ as the building stone, as the building life and element</p>	<p>Matt. 21:42-44 1Pet. 2:4</p>
<p>18. The Son of the King in the Parable of the Marriage Feast</p>	<p>THE KINGDOM'S WEDDING FEAST A king prepared a wedding feast for his son... but those who have called to the wedding feast disregarded it and went off...</p>	<p>A marriage feast is an enjoyment The parable of the vineyard depicts – labor under law The marriage feast depicts – enjoyment under grace We in the Lord's recovery are not laboring under law, but are enjoying under grace</p>	<p>Matt. 22:1-14</p>
<p>19. The Lightning Coming Forth from the East and Shinning to the West</p>	<p>THE PROPHECY OF THE KINGDOM – ABOUT ISRAEL Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives – saying "Just as the lightning comes for the from the east and shines to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be."</p>	<p>Lightning is concealed in a cloud, so is Christ be clothed with a cloud in the air for a time and then suddenly appear like a flash to the earth. We need to watch and be ready; be faithful and prudent - for the Lord's coming back</p>	<p>Matt. 24:3, 27 Rev. 10:1 1Thes. 4:15-17 2Cor. 5:10</p>

<p>20. The Thief in the Parable of Watching</p>	<p>WATCHING AND BE READY "... if the householder had known in which watch the thief was coming, he would have watched" Be ready, because at an hour when you do not expect it, the Son of Man is coming</p>	<p>Thieves come secretly to steal what is valuable The Lord Jesus will come secretly as a thief to those who love Him and will take them away as His treasure We should be a normal Christian who are qualified to be stolen by the Lord</p>	<p>Matt. 24:43-44 Rev. 3:3 Rev. 16:15 1Thes. 5:2 2Pet. 3:10</p>
<p>21. The Master of the Faithful Slaves and of the Evil Slaves</p>	<p>BEING FAITHFUL AND PRUDENT "Who then is the faithful and prudent slave... But if that evil slave says ..., My master delays..."</p>	<p>Christ is the Master Blessed is the faithful slave when the master comes shall find so doing will be rewarded The master of the evil slave shall come on a day he does not expect ... shall cut him asunder and appoint his portion is that place shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth May we practice prudence towards our fellow believers to give food, at the proper time, when our Master comes will find us so doing</p>	<p>Matt. 24:45-51</p>
<p>22. The Bridegroom in the Parable of the Ten Virgins</p>	<p>A PARABLE FOR WATCHFULNESS The kingdom of the heavens will liken to ten virgins who took lamps and went to meet the bridegroom</p>	<p>Christ is the Bridegroom We the believers are the virgins Five were foolish and five were prudent The prudent virgins are those who are bearing His testimony went with the bridegroom into the wedding feast The foolish virgins were not able to enter into the wedding feast We should be the prudent virgins who have oil in their lamps (our spirit) and also who have oil in their vessels (soul).</p>	<p>Matt. 25:1-13 John 3:9 Matt. 9:15</p>
<p>23. The Man Going to the Foreign Country in the Parable of the Talents</p>	<p>A PARABLE FOR FAITHFULNESS A man about to go abroad, called his slaves and delivered to them his possession To one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one</p>	<p>The man is Christ The slaves signify the believers in the aspect of service In His coming back He will settle accounts that is, at His judgment seat for reward or punishment The reward was the same, it is related to our faithfulness in using His gift to the fullest extent</p>	<p>Matt. 25:14-30 2 Cor. 5:10 Rom. 14:10</p>

<p>24. A Patch of the New Garment Not Suitable for the Old Garment</p>	<p>CALLING THE DESPISED “No one tears a patch from a new garment and puts it on an old garment ... the patch from the new will not match the old”</p>	<p>The new garment is Christ as our righteousness to cover us outwardly He is the new garment who was “treated” in crucifixion and became in resurrection the completed garment Old garment signifies our good deed, good behavior by the old natural life When we were baptized into Christ as the Spirit, we put on Christ as our clothing, our covering</p>	<p>Luke 5:36 Matt. 9:16 Gal. 3:27</p>
<p>25. A Moneylender with Two Debtors</p>	<p>FORGIVING SINNERS A Pharisee ask Him [Jesus] to eat with him ... there was a woman who brought an alabaster flask, the Pharisee said in himself, if He [Jesus] were a prophet would know the woman is a sinner. Jesus answered – a certain moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii and the other fifty, and he graciously forgave them both. Which of them will love him more?</p>	<p>Christ, as the moneylender, is the incarnation of the forgiving God Both the Pharisee and the woman were sinners, debtors to Him, and He graciously forgave them both. This means that we have nothing with which to repay our debt to God, but thank the Lord our Savior, He had already forgiven us.</p>	<p>Luke 7:36-43</p>
<p>26. A Compassionate Samaritan Saving the Wounded</p>	<p>POTRAYING HIMSELF AS THE GOOD SAMARITAN WITH THE HIGHEST MORALITY “... love your neighbor as yourself... who is my neighbor?” A certain man fell among robbers, stripped him and beaten him, leaving him half dead A certain priest saw him, passed by on the opposite side of the road ... also a Levite passed him by A certain Samaritan came upon him ... moved with compassion, bound up his wound ... brought him to an inn...</p>	<p>Christ is portrayed as a compassionate Samaritan saving the wounded. He bound up his wound – healing him He poured on his wound oil and wine – giving him the Holy Spirit and the divine life He brought him to an inn – into the church The Lord Jesus fully meets our urgent need, He is full of compassion, love, sympathy and care He is merciful, tender, and bountiful care for us wounded ones</p>	<p>Luke 10:27-37 Matt. 9:17 John 2:9 Zech. 9:9</p>
<p>27. The Lord in the Parable of Watching</p>	<p>TEACHING TO BE WATCHFUL AND FAITHFUL Be like men waiting for their master when he returns...Blessed are those slaves, whom will find watching, whom will find so doing</p>	<p>Christ, as the householder, the master who will come back to be with us who are watchful. He will reward us according to how we been watching</p>	<p>Luke 12:35-48</p>

<p>28. The Vinedresser in the Parable of the Unfruitful Fig Tree</p>	<p>TEACHING CONCERNING REPENTANCE A certain man has a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and did not find any ... cut it down ... the vinedresser said Master leave ... I put manure, might produce fruit in the future...</p>	<p>Christ is the vinedresser God as the owner came in the Son to the Jewish people as to a fig tree God the Father wanted to cut them down but the Son as the vinedresser prayed for them, hoping that they would repent But the Jews did not repent, even after the Lord Jesus died and resurrected The Jewish people were cut down in 70 AD when Titus brought his Roman army to Jerusalem and destroy the city Let us be watchful and faithful in carrying out the Lord's commission</p>	<p>Luke 13:6-9 Matt. 21:33</p>
<p>29. The Man Seeking the Lost Sheep</p>	<p>SAVING LOVE OF THE TRIUNE GOD – A SHEPHERD SEEKING A SHEEP Man has a hundred sheep and lost one ... left the ninety-nine to find the lost sheep... when he finds it ...rejoicing</p>	<p>Christ, the shepherd seeking the lost sheep His way to seek us is to die for us. He is the good Shepherd who gives His life for the sheep He came in His humanity as the Shepherd to find us “lost sheep” and bring us back home</p>	<p>Luke 15:3-7 John 10:11</p>
<p>30. The Best Robe and the Fattened Calf in the Parable of the Father Receiving the Prodigal</p>	<p>SAVING LOVE OF THE TRIUNE GOD – A FATHER RECEIVING HIS SON A certain man had two sons ... the younger sons went abroad and squandered his estate ... he spent all and began to be in want... he said... I will go to my father When the father saw him and was moved with compassion ... bring out quickly the best robe ... bring the fattened calf; slaughter it</p>	<p>Christ is the best robe and the fattened calf The robe (outward) to cover the penitent sinner Christ as the best robe is our righteousness in whom we are justified The fattened calf (inward) for our enjoyment He was killed on the cross for us to be filled with the divine life Today we are enjoying Christ as our outward righteousness and as our inward life and life supply</p>	<p>Luke 15:11-24</p>
<p>31. A Man of Noble Birth in the Parable of the Minas</p>	<p>TEACHING CONCERNING FAITHFULNESS A certain man of noble birth called ten of his slaves and gave them ten minas and do business</p>	<p>Christ is the man of noble birth He has given us equal portion based upon the common salvation When He comes back, He will give us reward according how we use the minas We the saved ones should serve the Lord so that we may inherit the coming kingdom</p>	<p>Luke 19:11-24</p>

<p>32. The Door to Leave the Fold, the Pasture to Feed the Sheep, and the Shepherd in the Parable of the Sheepfold</p>	<p>LIFE SHEPHERDING FOR THE FLOCK “I am the door” ... go in and go out, you shall find pasture... “I am the good Shepherd” ... lay down His life for the sheep</p>	<p>Christ is the door, the pasture, and the Shepherd He is the door to go out from the sheep fold (religion) to go into the pasture (church, the feeding place) He is our freedom, our life supply, and Shepherd leading, guiding and directing us in the divine life</p>	<p>John 10:9-11</p>
<p>33. The Vine</p>	<p>THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES – AN ORGANISM “I am the true vine” My Father is the husbandman</p>	<p>The Lord Jesus is the true vine The vine is the Father’s pleasure; the Father is the source The vine is embodiment of the fullness of the riches of divinity Christ is an organism full of life, for the propagation and multiplication of life to express life for the glorification of the Father</p>	<p>John 15:1 John 1:18; Col. 2:9</p>
<p>34. The Child in the Parable of the Travailing Woman</p>	<p>THE SON TO BE BORN IN RESURRECTION AS A NEWBORN CHILD A woman, when she gives birth, has sorrow, but when she brings forth the child is full of joy</p>	<p>The woman is the whole group of the disciples and the child is Christ, and the birth is resurrection In eternity Christ was the only begotten Son of God Then in the incarnation, He was born to be the Son of Man And in resurrection He had another birth to be the Firstborn Son of God He has become the Firstborn Son of God, and we have become God’s many sons, His increase, and His Body, which is His fulness, His expression</p>	<p>John 16:21 1Pet. 1:3</p>