

ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS

A SYSTEMATIC SERIES

UNVEILING GODS ETERNAL TRUTH IN THE PARABOLIC TEACHINGS OF JESUS CHRIST

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“THE PARABLE OF THE TWO GATES & TWO WAYS”

ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS UNVEILED

Part 2

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Foolish Living, Unprepared, Poor Toward God, Wasted, Hell

Matthew 7:13-14

Remember church, what a parable is?

A parable is a common word-picture which is used as an image or story to illustrate a deeper truth or lesson. It creates in the mind of the hearer a “mini-drama” of pictures painted by words that describes the reality of the illustration.

A parable shows a likeness between the image of an illustration and the object being illustrated. It defines the unknown by using the known. It helps the listener to discover the deeper meaning and underlying truth of what a common reality can represent. A parable can be a figure of speech or a comparison to better see an eternal, spiritual reality.

This Is a Parable That’s Often Missed for Being a Parable

Because this is a unique type of Parable because of where it is placed by Jesus. Here He gave it at the end of the Sermon on the Mount. So, applying what we know about a Parable’s purpose – The Sermon on the Mount is summed up or graphically presented or “**Brought to Life**” with this **Parabolic Illustration**.

Matthew 7:13-14

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **14** Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

“Let’s Remember That Jesus Faithfully Preached the Gospel”

John 12:49-50

For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. **50** And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”

The Gospel – It’s Eternal, Unchanging
and Not Open For Negotiation.

**THE PARABLE OF
THE TWO GATES & TWO WAYS**

1.) Make sure you’re on the right path

v.13

MAKE SURE YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT PATH

1a.) **Keep your eyes on heaven** v.13a

Matthew 7:13
"Enter by the narrow gate;

MAKE SURE YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT PATH

1b.) **Stay away from strangers** v.13b

Matthew 7:13
"for (because) wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction,

MAKE SURE YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT PATH

1c.) **Don't do what everyone else is doing** v.13

and there are many who go in by it'

We ended Part 1 of the teaching with a statement that unsettled some.

>>>> and verse 13 shocked some of you. <<<<<

"Here's what was said"

"Churches Marquees That Say - 'All are welcome'.

That is a given. But what Christianity says is that "All are welcome to receive the grace and love and forgiveness of sins
BASED UPON JESUS CHRIST'S GOSPEL - NOT OUR OWN RE-INTERPRETATION OF IT OR WHAT I WANT IT TO
SAY OR WHAT I FEEL IT SHOULD SAY.

THE PARABLE OF
THE TWO GATES & TWO WAYS

2.) **Give yourself totally to God** v. 14

Matthew 7:14
Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

GIVE YOURSELF TOTALLY TO GOD

2a.) **Because He is the only Door** v.14a

Matthew 7:14a
Because narrow is the gate

Narrow grk: steno/β **stenos**, sten-os´; from stenosis meaning to slip through or to pass narrowly by. To squeeze through a restriction or to pass through an opening within an obstacle.

gate grk: pu/1h **pule**, poo´-lay; a leaf that enjoins to another, a wing or part of a folding, bi-folding or accordion door or entrance a gate within a wall or fence.

John 10:7-9

Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. **8** All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. **9** I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

In this "I am" statement, Jesus graphically points out to us His exclusive nature of being our salvation by saying that He is "the door," not "a door."

"Of all domesticated animals, sheep are considered to be the most human dependent. Sheep will spend their entire day grazing wandering from place to place never looking up. As a result, they often become lost and that on a daily bases. Sheep have no "homing instinct" as other animals do. They are totally incapable of finding their way to their own sheepfold even when it is in plain sight. By nature, sheep are followers. If there "appears" to be lead sheep that steps off into danger such as a river or even off of a cliff, it is not uncommon among the other sheep to blindly follow." – Phillip Keller continues, Additionally, sheep are easily susceptible to injuries and so need anointing (oil) to ward off infection. They are utterly helpless against predators. If a wolf enters the fold, they will not defend themselves. They will not run but they will huddle together, making their slaughtered even easier. If sheep venture into moving water, they will drown. However, they do seem to avoid moving water and will not drink from any stream or lake unless the water is perfectly still. This is why David, a shepherd knew what to write in the 23rd Psalm when he tells us of God's shepherding care which "makes [us] to lie down in green pastures, and leads [us] besides the still waters . . . If there is any protection at all available to the sheep, it is that of being able to recognize their shepherds voice. So close is this verbal bond between shepherd and sheep that to this day, Middle Eastern shepherds can divide flocks that have mingled among other sheep by simply calling out to his sheep in his native voice. Shepherds were inseparable from their flocks. The shepherd would lead the sheep to safe places to graze and "make them to lie down in green pastures" for hours on end in a shady place. As night would fell, the shepherd would lead the sheep to the protection of a sheepfold - most often a stone enclosure with one small, narrow opening. Once the sheep where safely within the sheepfold, the shepherd would then lie down in the way, becoming the very door itself which kept the sheep in and safe and the enemy out.

The Evidence of a Real Christian Life Is;

A New Thought Life. // A Desire to Draw Near to God. // An Eternal Perspective
A Prayer-Mindedness. // A Fellowship-Awareness. // A Joyful Hopefulness

GIVE YOURSELF TOTALLY TO GOD

2b.) Because half measures will not work v.14b

Matthew 7:14b
and difficult is the way

The Sower and The Seed and You

Everything About Our Salvation is "Complicated"

meaning = deep, involved, expensive, costly, final.

Why is it (being a Christian) Difficult ?

Because the Way is Difficult.

difficult grk: $\alpha\lambda\iota\beta\omega$ **thlibo**, *thlee'-bo*; to crowd out or to push out of the way. To be afflicted, harassed, ridiculed, reduced, set-aside, discarded.

If you want an easy life "now" and a hellish life later, forever – then stay away from Jesus Christ. Because becoming a Christian will totally ruin your self-centered lifestyle.

He "Radically" Changes You But...

The world around you doesn't change. He rescues you from hell but sin is all around you haunting you.

James 1:2-4

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **4** But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

1 Peter 1:3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **6** In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, **7** that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

GIVE YOURSELF TOTALLY TO GOD

2c.) Because He desires life for you v.14c

Matthew 7:14c
which leads to life,

GIVE YOURSELF TOTALLY TO GOD

2d.) Because v.14d

Matthew 7:14d
and there are few who find it.

The issue is one that is wholly unique to we human beings.

(how lost are we? - - **#1 consider** how we think // **#2 question** what are our fears? **#3 how** do we act ? // **#4 what** is our response to God's existence? //

In The Grand Collection of Humanity and that of Human Souls, Very few make it into eternity alive – many (most) choose a path that leads to an eternal existence, alive in a place called Hell.

Why?

>>>> The Cross, The Christ, The
Call <<<<

End of Study

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