

Study Questions
Matthew 13 Parables – Part 2
Sunday December 6th 2009

1). Mt 13:34 *All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them, 35 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world."*

a). The Lord here is quoting from Psalm 78 – what 3 things in particular do these 2 verses of scripture tell us about His use of parables?

b). In what way would these verses be complimentary to what we have read in Isaiah 46:9-10?

c). What conclusions about the content of the parables can we draw from all this?

2). As concisely as possible, can you outline the prophetic thread that takes us from Adam to the Nativity?

a). What does this prophetic thread make clear to us with regards to God's dealings with Man?

b). What are the implications of this with regards to Israel?

3). Lu 3:23 *Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, the son of Heli,*

- a). What does the phrase, ‘as was supposed’ in the Greek language tell us?
- b). Whose genealogy is given here in Luke?
- c). Which of David’s sons does this lineage come through?
- d). Where can it be traced back to?
- e). What would this tell us about God’s reason for choosing Mary? Do we have any scripture that would help explain the timing for this?
- f). Why do you think scripture establishes Jesus’ bloodline in this way?

4). In the genealogy of Joseph in Matthew, which of David’s sons is in his lineage?

- a). Why do you think scripture needs to make this connection with Solomon?
- b). Do we have any scripture to help us?

5). And so, with Mary’s lineage coming through Nathan and Joseph’s through Solomon what does this tell us about Jesus?

6). Why was it necessary then for Joseph to take Mary as his wife?

a). What parallel could we see here in Joseph cleaving to Mary with Adam cleaving to the Woman?

7). Lu 1:30 *Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."*

a). Where have we seen the content of v32-33 before?

b). Lu 1:38 *Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word."*

c). How does Mary respond to the angel?

c). Why do you think it was that Mary responded in this way?

d). What lesson could we learn here for ourselves?

8). Lu 1:45 *"Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord." 46 And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. 48 For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call*

me blessed. 49 For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name. 50 And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. 52 He has put down the mighty from their thrones, And exalted the lowly. 53 He has filled the hungry with good things, And the rich He has sent away empty. 54 He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy, 55 As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and to his seed forever."

- a). What things does Mary say God has done in v51-53?
- b). What tense is this written in?
- c). What observation can we make about these verses?
- d). What is Mary referring to in v54-55?
- e). What do you think might be significant about this?

9). Lu 1:67 ¶ *Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying: 68 "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people, 69 And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of His servant David, 70 As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, Who have been since the world began, 71 That we should be saved from our enemies And from the hand of all who hate us, 72 To perform the mercy promised to our fathers And to remember His holy covenant, 73 The oath which He swore to our father*

Abraham: 74 To grant us that we, Being delivered from the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him without fear, 75 In holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.

a). These are the words that Zacharias speaks after the birth of John the Baptist – what does he say in v68? And what do you notice about it?

b). What does he say in v69 and to what is he referring?

c). What does v70 tell us about v69?

d). As we look at v71-75 – has any of this happened yet?

e). So to what are these verses referring?

f). What might we observe about this?

g). To what does Zacharias refer in v73?

h). Do you see the connection between v73 and v54-55?

i). What does this say to you?

10). What contrast do you see between Simeon and Anna and Israel's religious leaders?

a). How does this contrast parallel events at Kadesh Barnea?

b). In what way could we see this same thing in the 'Church' today?

c). How might we attain to the same degree of certainty as Simeon and

Anna?