

Jesus begins to speak in parables?

It had not always been that way. In the early part of His ministry, Jesus had not used parables. Suddenly, He begins telling parables exclusively, much to the surprise of His disciples, who asked Him, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?” ([Matthew 13:10](#)).

Compare a heavenly (Absolute TRUTH) to an earthly (Objective truth) in a parable form. It's true a mustard seed will not grow if it falls on hard ground. Therefore, the listener will be able to understand that the heavenly (absolute TRUTH) is equal to an (objective truth). This is done for the sake of teaching of the good news of the kingdom of God. **Luke 1:77 (NIV)** To give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins.

This truth will be easily understood by those who have already accepted the heavenly TRUTH. While concealing it from those who do not immediately believe in the heavenly TRUTH. This method also served to challenge the listener to reflect on their own understanding of the kingdom of God.

The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”

Luke 8:10-15

'He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, “‘though seeing, they may not see; though hearing, they may not understand.’ “This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop. '

According to the Bible, Jesus spoke in parables to intentionally reveal truth to

those who were open to hearing it, while simultaneously concealing the meaning from those with hardened hearts who rejected his message; essentially, using everyday stories to separate those who were truly seeking understanding from those who were not.

Jesus explained that His use of parables had a two-fold purpose: to reveal the truth to those who wanted to know it and to conceal the truth from those who were indifferent. In the previous chapter ([Matthew 12](#)), the Pharisees had publicly rejected their Messiah and blasphemed the Holy Spirit ([Matthew 12:22–32](#)). They fulfilled Isaiah’s prophecy of a hardhearted, spiritually blind people ([Isaiah 6:9–10](#)). Jesus’ response was to begin teaching in parables. Those who, like the Pharisees, had a preconceived bias against the Lord’s teaching would dismiss the parables as irrelevant nonsense. However, those who truly sought the truth would understand.

Other Points:

Protecting his message: By using parables, Jesus could avoid direct confrontation with those who were hostile towards him, while still communicating his message to those who were willing to listen.
