



JESUS AS THE METAPHORICAL THEOLOGIAN

PARABLES IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



PARABLE OF THE SOWER & BUILDER

LUKE CHAPTERS 8 AND 6

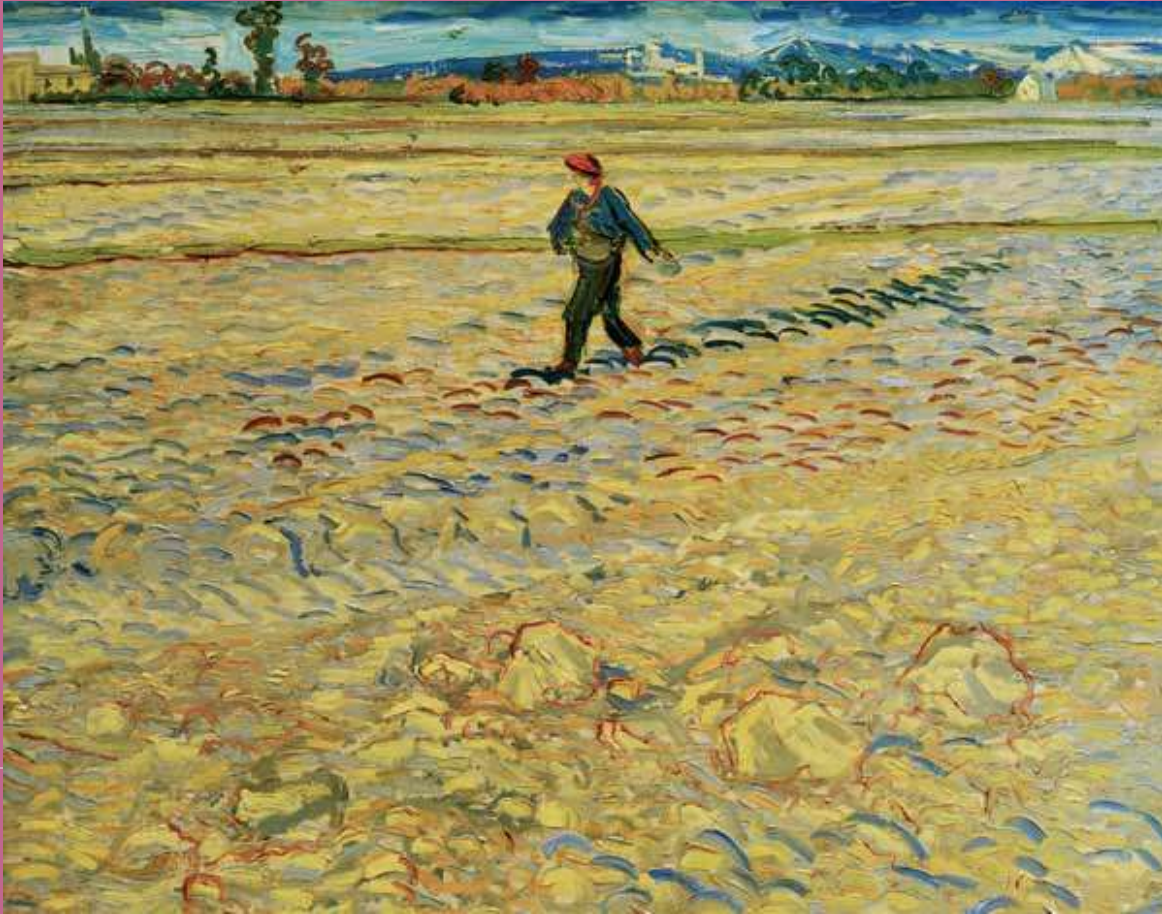


Four levels of this parable

- 1. Entertaining story**
- 2. Ethical example**
- 3. Revelation of the Kingdom (Theology)**
- 4. Hint of the character of the Lord (Christology)**

Visio Divina for Evangelicals

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Using Art & Scripture



Focus on the image:

- First impressions – What is the first thing that catches your eye?
- Thoughts – What comes to mind as you view the image?
- Emotions – What emotions arise as you look deeper at the image?
- Details - Notice color, shape, contrast, lighting, etc.

Focus on Scripture:

- Find and read aloud the Scripture passage from Luke 16:1-13.
- How does the image capture the basic message of the scripture?
- How does the image capture the details and nuances of the scripture?
- What attribute(s) of God does the image portray?



Luke 8:4-15 Parable of the Sower – Structure:

. And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable,

⁵ “A sower went out
to sow his seed.

And as he sowed,
some fell along the path (place)
and was trampled underfoot, (growth)
and the birds of the air devoured it. (results)

⁶ And some fell on the rock, (place)
and as it grew up, (growth)
it withered away, because it had no moisture. (results)

⁷ And some fell among thorns, (place)
and the thorns grew up with it (growth)
and choked it. (results)

⁸ And some fell into good soil (place)
and grew (growth)
and yielded a hundredfold.” (results)

As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

The parable:

First scene:

Path – public access

Plow techniques – covering the seed

**Seed that falls at the edge of the
path**

The parable:

Second scene:

Rock – the art of Terrence farming

**The closer to the Terrence the
shallower the soil**

**Seed is planted but not much is
expected in that location**

The parable:

Third scene:

**Thorns – corners of the lot often
boarder weeds (thorns)**

**Seed must compete with the weeds
for food**

**Seed is planted but not much is
expected in that location**

The parable:

Fourth scene:

Good soil – main area of the field

Best place to get a harvest

Plant a pound, get 100 pounds

The parable:

First premise:

The Sower is to plant no matter what the soil conditions.

The results is not the responsibility of the sower.

Never blame yourself for the results.

(Nothing wrong with the sower or the seed)

The parable:

Second premise:

There is no instant discipleship.

The Kingdom of God comes like a seed quietly planted in the soil.

The Christian life is a lifelong preoccupation. (young people think otherwise)

The parable:

Third premise:

Various kinds of impediments to the Gospel work.

Yet, the Sower sows knowing there will be a harvest of some kind.

Ultimately, the harvest is plentiful.

The parable:

Fourth premise:

Fruit is expected from the Sower.

Not just the plant, but the wheat.

It is not enough to have a good-looking field,
results are necessary.

Luke 8:4-15 Parable of the Builder – Structure:

The Retelling of an old story from Isaiah...

Isaiah 28:14 – 18

Isaiah story – Structure:

¹⁴Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scoffers,
who rule this people in Jerusalem!

¹⁵Because you have said, “We have made a covenant with death,
and with Sheol we have an agreement,
when the overwhelming whip passes through it will not come to us,
for we have made lies our refuge, and in falsehood we have taken shelter”;

¹⁶therefore thus says the Lord God,
“Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion,
a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation:
‘Whoever believes will not be in haste.’

¹⁷And I will make justice the line,
and righteousness the plumb line;
and hail will sweep away the refuge of lies,
and waters will overwhelm the shelter.”

¹⁸Then your covenant with death will be annulled,
and your agreement with Sheol will not stand;
when the overwhelming scourge passes through,
you will be beaten down by it.

Luke story – Structure:

⁴⁶ “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you? ⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like:

⁴⁸ he is like a man building a house,
who dug deep and
laid the foundation on the rock.

And when a flood arose,
the stream broke against that house
and could not shake it, because it had been well built.

⁴⁹ But the one who hears and does not do them
is like a man who built a house
on the ground
without a foundation.

When the stream broke against it,
immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

Luke story – Structure:

This is a fulfillment of the vision in Isaiah.

The meaning of the parable:

Matthew speaks of two builders / Luke does not
Builders build in the summer and the ground is very hard.
If the winter rains are very hard a house on the surface will be in trouble.

One can't look only at current circumstances.
There is only one stone / cornerstone that will stand.

