

APPL 538B: THE PARABLES OF JESUS – PREACHING MASTER CLASS

Darrell Johnson

July 4 – 8, Morning Lectures: 8:00 – 11:00 am, Workshops: 1:15 – 4:15 pm

3 graduate credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

As we read the Gospels, two facts about the life and ministry of Jesus especially stand out. The first is that He performed amazing deeds of healing and restoration of broken lives. The second is that He spoke in parables, in stories which at first seem obvious enough, but which upon further hearing, begin to radically alter our understanding of reality. Through His parables Jesus opens up His understanding of the Kingdom whose advent He announces, and paints a portrait of the Father for Whom He lives. And we are, slowly but surely, brought into His own understanding of reality. In this course we will work through His parables in Matthew and Luke, learning to hear Jesus speak in His Middle-Eastern context and thus, hear Him as we otherwise could not!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:

1. Why Jesus preached in parables.
2. How to interpret Jesus' parables.
3. How knowing the original context helps us understand Jesus and His parables.
4. The Kingdom of God and the God of the kingdom.
5. How we are to live in light of what Jesus is revealing in His parables.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1 Morning Lecture: Why Does He Do It? (1) Why Jesus Preaches in Parables (2) The Parable of the Sower (3) A Survey of All His Parables (4) How to Read and Interpret His Parables (5) Luke 11:1 – 11

Afternoon Workshop: On Preaching the Parables, Preacher #1, Preacher #2

Day 2 Morning Lecture: Parties, Prodigals, and Possessions: Luke 14, 15, and 16

Afternoon Workshop: Discussion of Blomberg 1, Preacher #3, Preacher #4

Day 3 Morning Lecture: Forgiveness, Foreigners, Pleas, and Prayers: Luke 7, 10, and 18

Afternoon Workshop: Discussion of Blomberg 2, Preacher #5, Preacher #6

Day 4 Morning Lecture: The Kingdom Is At Hand! (1) The Coming of the Kingdom (Mark 3:20 – 29; Mark 4:26 – 29) (2) The Mystery of the Kingdom (Matthew 13)

Afternoon Workshop: Discussion of Blomberg 3, Preacher #7, Preacher #8

Day 5 Morning Lecture: Keep Watch! (Matthew 24 – 25: Waiting for the King, Context, Parable of the Ready Servant, Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids, Parable of the Talents, Parable of the Sheep and Goats)

Afternoon Workshop: More on Preaching in General, Preacher #9, Preacher #10

REQUIRED TEXTS

Blomberg, Craig L. *Preaching the Parables: From Responsible Interpretation to Powerful Proclamation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2004. ISBN: 0801027497. \$45.00

Wenham, David. *The Parables of Jesus*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 1989. ISBN: 0830812865. \$38.99.

All prices subject to change without notice. The Regent College Bookstore offers a 20% discount on regularly priced books (some exceptions may apply).

Please Note: The Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle: moodle.regentcollege.edu/login

