



bits from bob....

Changing Your Expectations
January 18, 2021

Jesus' parables had one goal – change the expectations of his listeners by revealing new realities. Jesus' kingdom parables are given in greatest detail in Matthew 13. Let's look specifically at vv. 31-35.

Parables are designed to reveal hidden truths. Parables change expectations by making the unseen obvious. Parables are a spiritual microscope. Look more closely. Things are not always as they appear. A great challenge in spiritual living—we tend to think in normal patterns rather than seeking new possibilities in changed expectations.

We want things to go back to normal, we expect to do things the same as before. Is there any possibility that God is calling us, challenging us, to a new normal, to changed expectations? Jesus came to help people change their expectations. Life can be better. Your life can be better, your life can be different. New fruitfulness, new victories, new realities. New possibilities.

The two parables in the reading show the power of small things. Parables can turn our thinking upside down, but we have to listen, we have to hear. One who has ears to hear must hear. When Jesus talks about a pearl of great price and a treasure in a field, he is reminding us that new possibilities are of such great value that they who find them will pay virtually any price to obtain them.