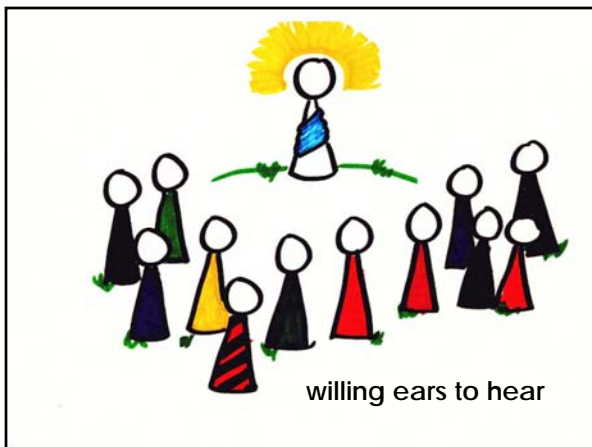




Why use parables?

- Some have neither interest nor regard for the deeper things of God
- Our Lord's parables contain great volumes of truth in very few words
- Parables are effective and memorable vehicles for communication of divine truths
- The parable is a blessing to those with willing ears – lost in the ears of the skeptic





Parable - παραβολη

- Greek "parabole" (para-bow-LAY) Means "to place beside, to cast alongside"
- Vine's N.T. Words, it "signifies a placing of one thing beside another with a view to comparison"
- Wiersbe - "a story that places one thing beside another for the purpose of teaching"
- It puts the known next to the unknown so that we may learn

Jesus pure & simple

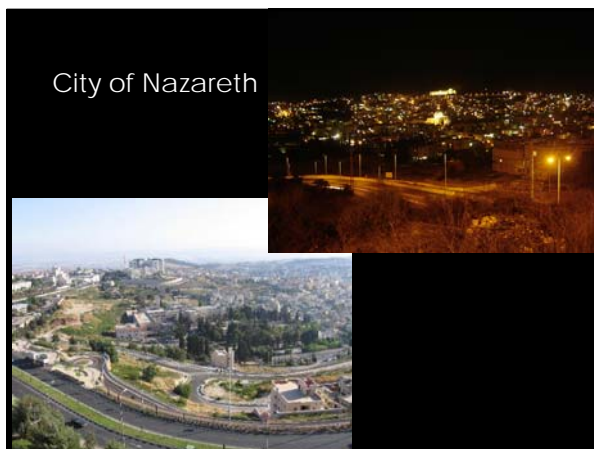
14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;



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City of Nazareth



Jesus pure & simple



Calling

- Light of the World
- Light concepts - 300 verses in Scripture
- *"For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light"* Proverbs 6:23
- Drawn to light
- Work in light
- Sent by light

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15 nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

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Clarity

- City on a hill
 - Nazareth
 - Cannot blend into darkness
- Light under a basket
 - Lit to be dark?
 - Cannot hide true self

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16 Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

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Charge

- Let your light shine
 - It will unless we impede!
- World may see
 - They will unless we distract!
- World may glorify
 - They will unless we attract!

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If the light will shine, it will:

- Expose sin (ours and theirs!)
- Cause growth – by illuminating the journey
- Draw others toward the Gospel!

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Simple Truth:

- Light the candle!
- Do not let the light be hidden
- Do not hide your light
- Let your light shine to glorify the Father!

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