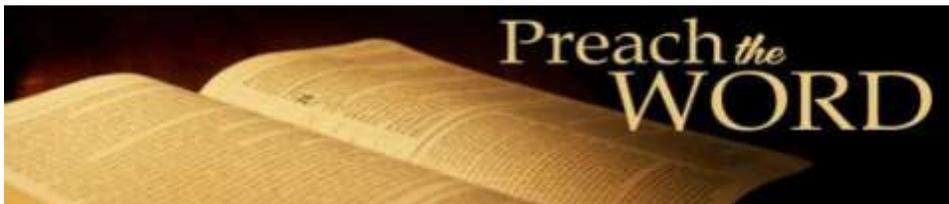


× Epistles

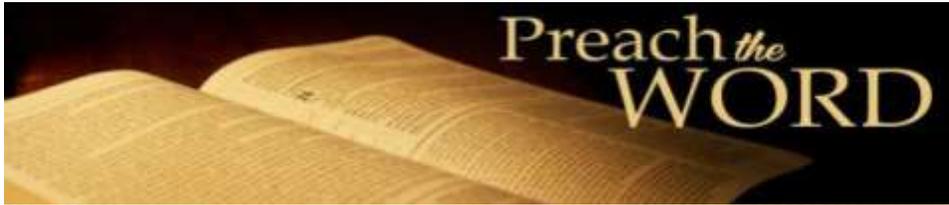
- + Occasional nature (written for specific situations)
- + Mirror reading (historical context crucial)
- + Follow the pattern taught in lesson # 1: words → syntax → bracketing → commentary.



× Parables (there are up to 100 in the NT)

× Purpose of parables

- + To illustrate truths. They are answers to questions (e.g. Good Samaritan answers who's my neighbor?)
- + To conceal truth from those who are hostile.
- + To disarm listeners. The best example is in the OT in 2 Sam 12 with Nathan using the parable to convict David of his sin.
- + Jesus gave his disciples further teaching and explanation (the secrets of the kingdom of heaven).



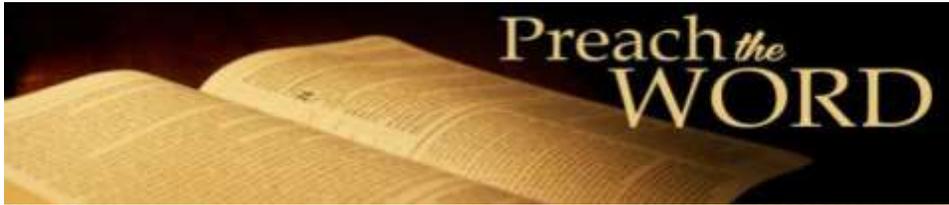
× Parables (continued)

- + They are not to be interpreted allegorically (one for one correspondence to each detail).
- + Parables tend to have one main point. It is not about assigning meaning to each detail. It often is found at the end.
- + Understand the life-situation of parable (very different from 21st century American culture).
- + Pay attention to how they are grouped since sometimes many are put together. That gives extra info outside of the parable that sheds light on it.



× Hermeneutical issues not necessarily related to genre.

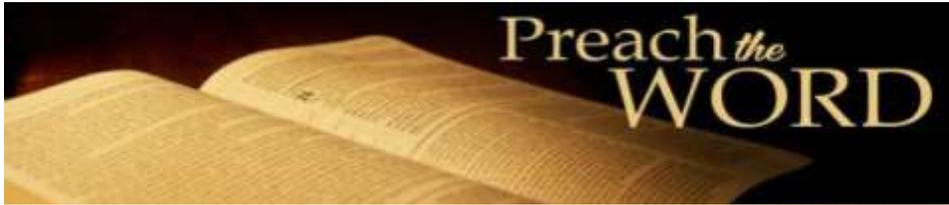
- + Idioms – common expressions shared by people who speak the same language, and the words are not to be taken literally.
 - × Found frequently
 - × Cannot be interpreted literally in context
 - × E.g. he who pisseth against the wall (KJV)
 - × Helps with, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”



- ✘ Hermeneutical issues not necessarily related to genre.
 - + Exaggeration: There are two categories
 - ✘ Hyperbole – It is so exaggerated that it is literally impossible.
 - ✘ Overstatement – It is possible to do it (though difficult), but this is not what we are being told to do. For example, it is literally possible to cut off your hand for lusting, but that is not what Jesus wanted you to do.
 - + How do you recognize exaggeration?
 - ✘ Statement is literally impossible
 - ✘ Statement conflicts with what Christ says elsewhere
 - ✘ Statement conflicts with Jesus behavior elsewhere
 - ✘ Statement conflicts with other OT or NT teachings
 - ✘ NT interprets statement in non literal way (Luke 14:26 and Matt 10:37)



- ✘ Hermeneutical issues not necessarily related to genre.
 - + Understanding covenants: There are two types.
 - ✘ Royal Grant -- a gift is given to the inferior party, and fulfillment of that promise rests upon the superior (e.g. God's covenant with Abraham)
 - ✘ Suzerain Covenant -- God makes this covenant with people in which conditions are placed (e.g. God's covenant with Israel at Sinai).
 - ✘ 1) Preamble; 2) historical prologue ;3) stipulations; 4) provision for continual reading; 5) list of witnesses; 6) blessings and cursings; 7) oath



✘ Conclusion

- + Understanding the rules of genre is important.
- + Think of reading a newspaper. Each section has its own rules and expectations.
- + God speaks to us through literature, and literature takes a variety of forms.
- + Without knowledge of these forms, misinterpretation will happen.