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The Challenges of Jesus' Parables

In the challenges of Jesus' Parables, the thing I find that struck me most is that the text's explanation regarding the various parable styles within a single theme plus its breakdown of every parable by every writer struck me as the book's most fascinating aspect. As Jesus prayed the Lord Prayer, which is also found in Matthew 6:9–13, the first verse of Luke 11 can be used as our starting point for our study. Jesus is instructing his disciples on how to pray at this point. In Luke 11:1-4, it says, "Father, hallowed be your name your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation".

The only difference I can make between this prayer and the one from the Gospel of Matthew 6 is that although Luke 11 begins with Father, Matthew begins with Our Father. I believe that Jesus was instructing his followers to simply address God simply their Heavenly Father whenever they're praying privately before him. Jesus provided an account from verses 5-8 to try and help his followers understand the prayer that he had previously instructed them in case they had trouble grasping it. "Then Jesus said to them," Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him

at midnight and say, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread. (5), a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him. (6) And suppose the one inside answers, Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything. (7) I tell you even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

I do not suppose I noticed anything in the author's jotting that caused me to have a disagreement with the stories, or apologues which are often challenging to comprehend at the present time. I find this book to be very intriguing and helpful. Each chapter has different divisions of themes of parables. I feel that the parables are so important for the generation that we live in at the moment. Numerous of us youthful grown-ups read the scriptures that Jesus had spoken to his votaries with metaphors and parables.

This generation would need clarity and help on understanding how they should live their lives for God. God wants us to live with the scriptures that we read but apply into life daily. Jesus was mostly instructing the disciples about prayer, communication, actions, attitudes while they live and work for the kingdom of God.

I think Longenecker intended this book for adults who are just starting to read parables. I think this resource can be helpful for people who have trouble understanding what could be understood from the parables that Jesus often told his disciples and those around him. Comparisons can be very difficult to fully understand at some points. Parables are one of the most difficult things for people to understand. Similes are often used as metaphors.

There is a parable in the text that can be helpful about God's love and care as we know about the lost coin, lost sheep, and prodigal son. Each time we sin and run away from God, the prodigal son is an amazing scripture and parable we can read about being lost but found later on. Luke 15 says, in verse 14,15,18-20, "And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants'. And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embarrassed him and kissed him".

God sees how sorry we may feel when we sin against him through our words and actions each and every day. Just as the father in that parable loves him no matter what, God loves us the same way.