



## A STUDY OF THE LIFE OF JESUS

### Lesson Nine: The First Parables of Jesus

Lesson Texts: *Matthew 13:1-53; Mark 4:1-34; Luke 8:4-18, 12:1-13:9; John 5:1-47*

#### A. Concerning Hypocrisy, Worldly Anxiety, Watchfulness and Jesus' Approaching Passion (Luke 12:1-59)

1. a. What is the "leaven of the Pharisees?"  
  
b. Why did Jesus warn His disciples about it?
  
2. a. Who has Jesus promised to confess before the angles of God?  
  
b. Who has He promised to deny before them?
  
3. How were the disciples instructed to answer when questioned by magistrates and others in power?
  
4. What prompted Jesus to warn His disciples to beware of covetousness?
  
5. In the parable of the rich fool, what demonstrates the folly of laying up treasures on earth and not in heaven?
  
6. How does Jesus illustrate the principle that one should place his trust in God for the physical necessities of life?
  
7. a. Who is said to seek after the things of the world?  
  
b. Why should God's children not be anxious about those things?
  
8. a. When the Lord returns, which servants will he bless?  
  
b. Why?

B. Repentance Enjoined, Parable of the Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13:1-9)

9. a. In the parable of the fig tree, what happened to the tree if it did not bear fruit?
  
- b. What lesson is to be learned from this parable?

C. The First Great Group of Parables (Matthew 13:1-53; Mark 4:1-34; Luke 8:4-18)

10. a. Briefly summarize the parable of the sower.
  
  - b. Explain its meaning.
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11. a. Why did Jesus teach in parables?
  
  - b. What prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled in regard to the parables of Jesus?
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12. a. In the parable of the mustard seed, what characteristic of the seed is emphasized?
  
  - b. Why?
  
  - c. What lesson is to be learned from this parable?
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13. a. What characteristic of leaven does Jesus use to teach a lesson?
  
  - b. What is that lesson?
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14. a. In the parable of the great treasure, what did the man do who found this treasure?
  
  - b. What is the lesson of this parable?

15. What is the lesson of the parable of the pearl of great price?

16. What lesson is to be learned from the parable of the net?

*"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow, it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."*

*Hebrews 4:12*



**Women Alive in Christ Application Questions:**

1. As you studied this week, did you learn something new? Was there something in particular that you read with a new freshness or that seemed particularly applicable to your present season of life or circumstances?
  
2. Was there something in this week's lesson that particularly touched your heart?
  
3. What did you learn in your study of the scriptures:
  - a. About the character and/or nature of Jesus?
  
  
  - b. About the character and/or nature of other individuals ("man") described in the text?  
Can you relate to them in any way?
  
4. Has this week's study challenged you, strengthened or grown you in your faith, trust or love for Jesus?
  
5. Were you encouraged in your faith through your study?
  
6. Were you convicted in any way?
  
7. What would God have you do in response to what has been revealed to you through the Scriptures? Are you willing to make and express a measurable goal to share with your group in an effort and desire for accountability?
  
8. Write out your personal prayer request to share briefly with your group.