

Parables of Jesus

told in terms of today's situations

by

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The Return of the Son.

**In a big city there lived a rich man
Who owned a factory as well as much land.
He had two sons who helped with the work,
One was industrious, the other a jerk.**

**One day the one who did not like to work
Went to his father and asked for this perk:
"Could I not have my inheritance now?
But to your wishes of course I must bow!"**

**Father then said to him: "Here is your share!
Seek your good fortune, but seek it with care!"
Into the parlours and drug-haunts he went,
Going for ecstasy till all was spent.**

**He had to work for a pittance of pay,
Working all night and then sleeping by day.
He thought with anguish of what he had left,
His heart thus almost in twain it had cleft,**

**"S'ppose I go back to my father to serve?
Just to approach him, would I have the nerve?"
So he trudged back to his old home on foot,
Dirty and ragged, his face just like soot.**

**His father each day had looked out down the road
(For his lost son much compassion he showed)
So on that day when he saw him approach,
He went to meet him in his splendid coach.**

**"Son! You were lost and now you are back!
Hopefully this is the end of your track!"
"I am not worthy to be just your slave,
Having thus squandered all that which you gave!"**

**"No! You shall come and feast with us tonight!
Now you are home, it's the end of your plight!"
His elder brother, on seeing the feasting
Questioned one servant: "What IS all I'm seeing?"**

**"Your brother's back and we're celebrating!"
This made him start his young brother berating.
He found his father and said to him sternly:
"I've always served you!", he repeated quite firmly,**

**My faithful work you have n'er celebrated
But for him there who his father maltreated
You've made a feast which I'm sure is unfair;
I will not join in this wild welcome fair!"**

**"You've always been my beloved good son
I would have loved you whatever you'd done!
All that is mine is clearly yours too,
Since we're together in all that we do!"**

**"But don't you see that your brother was missing?
Now that he's back you should hug him and kiss him!
Let's I show him love since he's fully repented
Let's all be happy as he has recanted!"**

Luke 15. 11-32

The Story of Four Computer Files.

**There was a worker with great inspirations
Working so hard with his keyboard and screen,
But he was prey to some easy distractions
From which himself he could never quite wean!**

**Leaving the keyboard was his fatal error
As he had not put his file on to SAVE
When he came back he discovered in terror
Power switched off sent his file to its grave!**

**Another brave worker used language unsuited
So he got muddled and pressed the wrong key,
So it appeared the whole file was deleted
All he could say was "Oh! Woe is me!"**

**Then there was this one: on Internet crazy
Who with search-engines his file tried to fill,
That is because he was essentially lazy
But for this weakness he did pay the bill!**

**One day he came for to work on his file
Found that his work was corrupted by virus!
So him some evil men thus did beguile
(There are some everywhere waiting to try us!)**

**There was one worker who was very careful
Keeping to rules and ignoring wrong hints,
His file thus grew into something so fruitful
Which his good printer now faithfully prints**

**There is a moral to this little story,
You can now find it in Mathew Thirteen,
See how the Evil One chases his quarry
He can still beat you though He be unseen!**

Mathew 13, 1-33.

A debtor's story.

**Playing the market was one of his hobbies,
Thus he became a very rich man
And he was part of the Government lobbies,
Life in great luxury he thus began.**

**He bought a mansion with view of the lake,
And took a mortgage of several millions,
He was convinced there was nothing at stake
So took to riding with girl-friends on pillions!**

**Markets go up but they also go down!
At one big gamble he lost all his money,
He looked for friends right all over the town,
Who told him market games weren't all that honey!**

**He found that now he could not pay his mortgage
So a foreclosure was due on his mansion!
He begged the company in humble language
To forgive debt or to grant an extension!**

**He was so happy when remission was granted
Though he went round to look for a source:
There was a person to him quite indebted
Whom he then threatened with full legal force.**

**This man was poor and he begged for forgiveness,
Promising payment at some later date,
But he was told that he had been too careless,
Payment was due and he couldn't be late!**

**But when the people who held his own mortgage
Heard of this heartless, though legalist deed,
Wrote to him: "Why did you NOT have the courage
To treat your debtor as you have been freed?"
"Procrastination in paying your mortgage**

**We'll not allow now in view of the facts.
Give us the house back and all that's in storage,
Adding the interest and all the tax!"**

**This is a story that is clearly moral,
I took it straight from good Mathew eighteen;
You must agree that it's best not to quarrel
Else you might miss all that which might have been.**

Luke 7, 36-50

The Ten Climbers

(Mathew 25, 1-13).

**There is a mountain with steep rocky slopes
Up which each climber so carefully gropes,
You need a pick-axe as well as some ropes
If for the summit you entertain hopes!**

**There is a refuge right at the high summit
Which you can reach taking care not to plummet
There is a warden who lives there to run it,
Who welcomes climbers and tells them "You've done it!"**

**One day he wanted to throw a big party
For to reward those all hale and hearty!
So he sent out for his friends who were climbers
(Of course he would need the most punctual timers!)**

**Ten of his friends soon accepted his calling
(Five of whom thought that they still might be stalling!)
But they all went to the base of the cliff
So to prepare for the climb Oh so stiff!**

**None of those stalling had brought their own axe
They did not like all the weight on their backs!
These said when they saw how steep was the face:
"Could we please borrow an axe by your grace?"**

**"We need our axes for doing the climb,
Why don't you get your own axe? There's still time!"
Those who were ready soon scaled the big hill,
The others trudged back, oh so silent and still!**

**When they came back with equipment all ready,
Snow started falling, so hard and so steady!
They could not climb, so they missed all the feast
They weren't prepared for the fray in the least!**

**Those who'd been wise had a wonderful time
And they praised God, for this peak was His shrine!
So be prepared for the calling might come
Any time now at the word of the Son!**

An Inner-City Mugging.

**Walking from work toward home in a city
This man had entered a district less safe,
Muggers attacked him as they had no pity,
When they were gone he looked just like a waif**

**One priest came by who would not get involved,
He thought the man had been punished by God
So to assistance he could not have been called,
Sinners are punished by God's vengeful rod!**

**Then came a business man who saw him bleeding,
He did not stop as his work pressed him on,
"It's a state trooper that he might be needing!"
He washed his hands of him and soon was gone!**

**Then came an African, full of compassion,
Who gave him water and dressed well his wounds,
For him this man's state required instant action,
It's not the time to wrap up in cocoons!**

**On his strong shoulders he carried him off
To the Emergency nearest at hand,
Telling the doctor: "I hope it's enough!"
Handing him over a couple of grand.**

**"Here is my card if the treatment costs more,
I'll reimburse you for what it will cost"
The victim then instantly felt much less sore!
Writhing in pain he had thought he was lost!**

**Which of the three was a very good neighbour?
No doubt you know what the answer must be:
You'll find in Luke ten the very clear answer
"You must act likewise and you will be free!"**

Luke 10, 25-37

Il buon samaritano.

**Un amico, ritornando dove egli abitava
Traversò un quartiere dove rarament' andava;
Quattro ladri l'aggreiron ed i soldi gli rubaron,
Lo lasciando lì per terra, e in fretta se n'andarón.**

**Lì passò un religioso che non volle dar aiuto,
Per peccati lo credev' a quella sorte condannato!
Lui pensava che l'Eterno fosse Dio di vendetta,
La sofferenza attualmente fosse cosa più corretta!**

**Un uomo molto ricco lì lo vide pien di sangue,
Occupato con affari, aiutar potè neanche!
"Ci vuol' un poliziotto! Certamente è un ladro!"
(Un uomo di affari non fa parte d'un tal quadro!)**

**Arrivò un Africano che sentiva compassione,
Le ferite dell'uomo le guardò con emozione;
Diede acqua 'l poverino e lavò le sue ferite,
Lo portò all'espedale, disse loro "Pur venite!"**

**"Buon dottore! lo pago, quest' assegn' è sufficiente?
Lo so bene, sei in fretta, pur curando questa gente!
Io pago volontieri 'l costo della guarigione
Del presente poverino, son sicuro ch'ho ragione!"**

**Fra di questi menzionati, quale è il buon vicino?
La rispost' è molto chiara, la darebbe un piccino!
Troverai questo racconto nel buon libro di San Luca,
Corrigendo nella tua conoscenza questa buca!**

The King's Grace.

**There was a kind king who did own lots of land,
He wanted the use of his land to expand,
He dreamt of a beautiful town to be built,
In which people thrived and were all free of guilt!**

**He soon found some workers who'd nothing to do,
He told them: "I'll pay a good wage to your crew
The end of the year should see everything stand,
So then you'll enjoy your good share of the land!"**

**But after two months he some more people found,
Who were neither building, nor tilling the ground.
"Why don't you come working in building the town?
I'll pay you good wages since I wear the crown!"**

**He found some more people to join him each month,
Who liked his town plan and got working at once.
The end of the year the whole city was built,
With trees and with flowers that never would wilt.**

**The workers lined up to collect all their wages,
(some were quite simple yet others were sages!)
The wage that each one did receive was the same,
It did not depend on the day that they came!**

**The ones who had worked for a year they spoke thus:
"Why do you give them just the same as to us?
We here have worked hard for you all the year round,
For paying the same for one month there's no ground!"**

**"I've paid you the sum that I'd promised to you!
So you cannot say that I haven't been true.
Can I not distribute my goods as I please?
The town is all yours with its flowers and trees!"**

**"So you shouldn't fault me for loving you all,
My kingdom is yours! You can all have a ball!
My grace is all yours for just working for me,
As linked up with me you all wanted to be!"**

Mathew 20, 1-16

The President's Offer.

**A company president once had the notion
To hand out some shares on both sides of the Ocean.
He sent out messengers with invitations
Taking much care that they went to all nations.**

**Thrice he sent servants with his invitations
Stressing that they'd enjoy great celebrations;
Each of them was much too busy to come,
They beat the messengers, leaving them numb!**

**So he sent out his invites on the Internet
Saying the banquet would not put them into debt!
Those who accepted received a gold medal,
Right to participate this would then settle.**

**When each invited came up for his share
(Coming without a gold medal who'd dare?)
One came without medal, so ostentatious,
Boasting his palace was even more spacious!**

**"I do not need any badge to be wearing!
I am so rich, therefore I can be daring!"
Of this the president did not approve,
Commanding his servants that him they must move!**

**So they arrested him and threw him out,
Which was the end of his too brazen bout.
Gnashing of teeth could be heard from without,
All guests agreed that the man was a lout!**

**Those who wore medals accepted God's grace,
Those who did not, would be out of the race,
And would for ever in darkness travail
While for acceptors God's Love would prevail.**

Mathew 22, 1-14

The Corner Stone.

**There was a man with a thriving good business
Who had to leave for a journey abroad;
As he believed in his three partners' goodness,
He left his books with them, not fearing fraud.**

**But these "good partners" were more like "good crooks"
Who while he journeyed, were cooking the books!
So when for checking he sent home his friend,
They gave him poison to hide their new trend!**

**As he lacked news he sent over another,
Who some more news of his business would gather.
He died as well at the hands of the crooks,
Since he found out they were cooking the books!**

**He then decided to send his own son,
He too was killed (they had used his own gun!)
What did the owner do when he got back?
He had to stop them in their cruel track!**

**Would you not think that he had them all killed
To death condemned as the judge surely willed?
They did not know that the Son was preparing
For everyone in the Company sharing!**

**Of the new building they'd thrown out the stone
Which for their own future was the backbone!
They'd killed the Son who with much loving care
Could have still taught them to pray: "Mon cher père!"**

**In Mathew twenty-one this story's told,
Verse thirty three is the place to behold.
You should be ready to come to the ball,
Having heard Jesus's clarion call.**

Mathew 21, 33-46