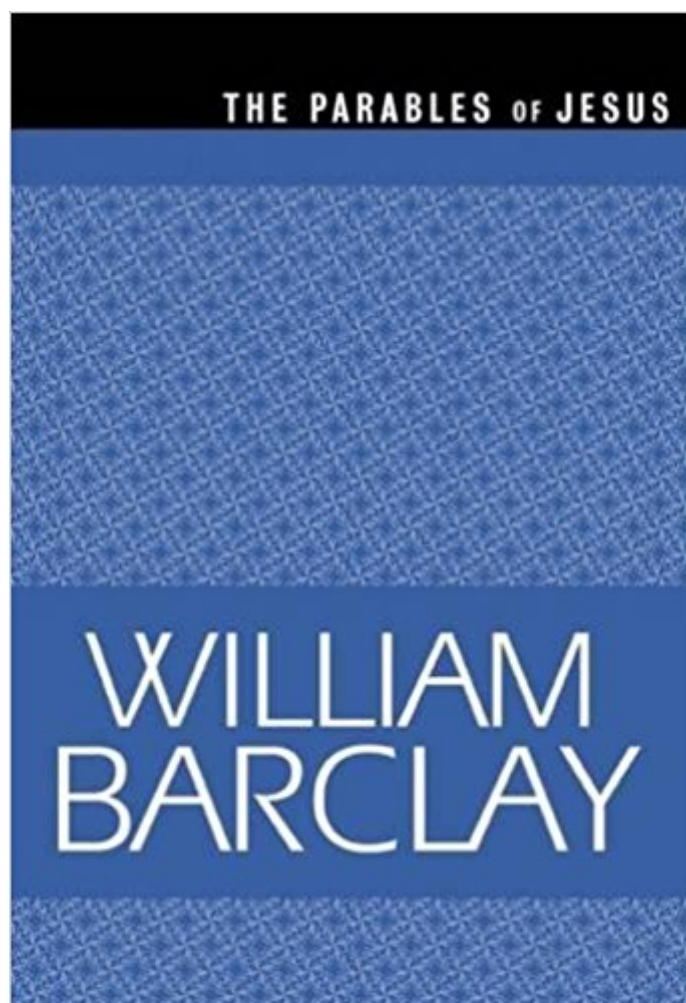


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The Parables Of Jesus (The William Barclay Library)



Synopsis

William Barclay brings to these "best-known stories in the world" new force and significance for the modern reader. Each chapter analyzes an individual parable--identifies its theme, explains it in the light of the language and customs of the ancient world, and clearly interprets its meaning for us today. The William Barclay Library is a collection of books addressing the great issues of the Christian faith. As one of the world's most widely read interpreters of the Bible and its meaning, William Barclay devoted his life to helping people become more faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

William Barclay (1907-1978) is known and loved by millions worldwide as one of the greatest Christian teachers of modern times. His insights into the New Testament, combined with his vibrant writing style, have delighted and enlightened readers of all ages for over half a century. He served for most of his life as Professor of Divinity at the University of Glasgow, and wrote more than fifty books--most of which are still in print today. His most popular work, the Daily Study Bible, has been translated into over a dozen languages and has sold more than ten million copies around the world.

WILLIAM BARCLAY WAS RECOMMENDED TO SEMINARIANS BY THE LATE BISHOP FULTON SHEEN. HE WAS RIGHT ON THE BUTTON WITH THAT RECOMMENDATION. WILLIAM

BARCLAY CAPTIVATES THE READER.

Barclay gives a perspective by putting the parables in categories, or by using the timeline as a context for the parable. This gives a much more concerted picture than when I read each parable separately; the latter gives a limited application - referring one against another helps to give the big picture. It is also written in a style that, while scholarly in substance, is also very readable and not at all pedantic. At the same time, Barclay does not indulge in bombast or histrionics. His is the kind of reading that is not so easy to find on today's shelves any more.

This is a classic in the famous style of the Scots author, Wm. Barclay. The updated version takes into account recent New Testament scholarship. I find this very usable as a text for an adult Bible class on the parables. I am waiting for N.T. Wright to do his own study of the parables. Until then, Barclay is the best.

Classic Barclay work. He's so great at linking the present with the past. I don't know of any other non-technical commentary that allows you to learn so much about the setting of the New Testament. Definitely worth adding to your collection of commentaries on the parables of Jesus.

Barclay is bright and simple in his approach to scripture. He uses historical fact and faith to help one understand what Jesus was truly teaching to the people of his day. You don't have to be a biblical scholar to understand Barclay. All it takes is a willingness to learn. Barclay does the rest.

delivered fast, well packaged, love this book

It is difficult to find the words that adequately convey the power and impact of William Barclay's writings. I believe that he was the finest commentator of the New Testament in the 20th century. This book is one of the crown jewels of his over 70 publications. Barclay's knowledge of the Greek language, the Jewish culture and religion, and the Roman occupation during the New Testament era is phenomenal. Furthermore, he has the unique ability to convey this immense knowledge in a manner which is very easy for any reader to understand. William Barclay has the ability to convey to the reader not only what that passage meant to the people to whom Jesus spoke to 2,000 years ago, but what those passages say to us today. On countless occasions, I have felt that Barclay was speaking to me personally as he discussed the relevance of the passage in his commentary. His

insights have brought me to tears at times; he has both challenged and inspired me. William Barclay's writings have truly changed my life. Barclay's clearest message is to convey the unconditional love of Jesus for all people. The best way to convey the power of Barclay's writing is to convey two examples: (1) "The basis of God's judgment is our reaction to the needs of others. God will not some day ask us to recite the creed, or put us through an examination in scripture knowledge, or investigate the orthodoxy of our theology. The one question which is basic is: 'What did you do to make life easier for others?' And again, that question is not based on the great contributions to human welfare which the newspapers report and the history books recount, but on our action and interaction upon the people with whom we come into contact every day." (2) "No one can ever have hurt Jesus so much as Peter did and yet when He rose from the dead Jesus sent a message to Peter to tell him that He still believed in him. The very fact that Jesus believes in us should fill us with a new self respect and a new determination not to fail him...so long as we keep on trying to follow and serve Christ, however inadequately, we are never shut out; but when we refuse to make the effort we can in the end shut ourselves out and pass the final judgment on ourselves."

I teach a weekly Bible study in a conservative denomination; unfortunately my church does not offer a set curriculum, so I am always looking for the next topic. Often, I default to a New Testament study, and regularly go to Barclay as a source of background material and application. This appears to be a compilation of material from his popular "Daily Bible Study" series. It is convenient to have all the parables in one place, however. I recommend this highly!

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