



WHY DID YESHUA (JESUS) SPEAK TO PEOPLE IN FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE AND IN PARABLES?

By George Lujack

Scripture is a book of confusion and mystery for many, because of the fact that much of it has been written in allegoric, figurative, metaphoric, parabolic, and prophetic language. Many cannot understand the mysteries of Scripture and don't even try to, but instead look to their religious institutions as a place through which they merely express their faith, on their own terms, without being concerned about learning the deeper mysteries (the truths) of the kingdom of heaven. The organized religious institutions further confound people's knowledge of Scripture with their doctrinally incorrect teachings. This article will explain why the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are known to some, but why they remain a mystery to many.

MATTHEW 13:10-15:

And the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do You speak to them in parables?”

Yeshua (Jesus) answered and said to them, “Because it has been given to YOU to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to THEM it has not been given. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. Therefore I speak to THEM in parables, because seeing THEY do not see, and hearing THEY do not hear, nor do THEY understand. And in THEM the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:

‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, LEST THEY SHOULD UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEARTS AND TURN [REPENT], so that I should heal them.’”

Yeshua (Jesus) said that the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven have been given to His disciples, but not to ‘them.’ Who are ‘them?’

‘Them’ are the multitudes who are NOT obeying His commandments, sinners who have NOT repented, including people of faith who do NOT believe His laws are applicable to them today. Their hearts are dull, their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes are closed TO THE LAW, lest they should understand with their hearts and repent!

PROVERBS 28:9:

One who turns away his ear from hearing THE LAW, even his prayer is an abomination.

ISAIAH 30:9-10:

Lying children, WHO WILL NOT HEAR THE LAW OF YHWH (the Lord); Who say to the seers, “Do not see,” and to the prophets, “Do not prophesy to us right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits.”

The multitudes, then and today, instead of turning and repenting, turn their ears away from hearing the law and declare the law done away with. When they hear the law, rather than turning from their sin in repentance, they turn to false prophets, teachers of lawlessness who approve of their sin and speak smooth words to comfort them in their sins. They fail to acknowledge God as the Supreme Lawmaker, fail to realize that His laws are eternal (Psalm 102:27, 119:160; Isaiah 40:8; Malachi 3:6; Matthew 5:17-19, 24:35; Mark 13:31; Luke 16:17, 21:33; Hebrews 1:12; James 1:17), fail to realize that He is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8), and thus they do not turn and repent from their sins. Therefore, since they do not have faith in Him as the Supreme Lawmaker, and do not obey His commandments, He speaks to the multitudes in parables, so that the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are not revealed to them.

JOHN 4:23-24:

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the TRUE WORSHIPERS will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

JOHN 16:25:

“These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father.”

The true worshipers, the righteous, those who seek to serve God in spirit and truth, and who obey His commandments are the ONLY ones who can understand the allegoric, figurative, metaphoric, parabolic, and prophetic language of Scripture.

The multitudes, whether they are lawless-minded false prophets, their congregations, or the multitudes of society in general, cannot understand the mysterious language of Scripture, because they are not worshipping God in spirit and truth, are not obeying His commandments, and thus the kingdom of heaven, the very words of Scripture, are not revealed to them.

Yeshua (Jesus) said He spoke in parables because they see and do not see and hear and do not hear THE LAW, and He doesn't want them to know the mysteries of the kingdom, *or they would repent*. Why would Yeshua (Jesus) NOT want to explain things literally, so people would repent?

LUKE 16:31:

“If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.”

Faith. Yeshua (Jesus) has offered all the proof that He is going to offer that God exists, through Himself, Moses (representing the law), and the prophets. He is the Lawmaker whose commandments we must keep.

HEARING THEY HEAR AND DO NOT UNDERSTAND; SEEING THEY SEE AND DO NOT PERCEIVE

There are many modern examples of those who hear, but do not understand, and see, but do not perceive.

THE EUCHARIST TRANSUBSTANTIATION DOCTRINE

LUKE 22:19-20:

And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.”

Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.”

JOHN 6:53-67:

Then Yeshua (Jesus) said to them, **“Most assuredly, I say to you, UNLESS YOU EAT THE FLESH OF THE SON OF MAN AND DRINK HIS BLOOD, you have no life in you. Whoever EATS MY FLESH AND DRINKS MY BLOOD has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.**

For MY FLESH IS FOOD INDEED, AND MY BLOOD IS DRINK INDEED. HE WHO EATS MY FLESH AND DRINKS MY BLOOD abides in Me, and I in him. As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down from heaven - not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.”

These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, **“THIS IS A HARD SAYING; WHO CAN UNDERSTAND IT?”**

When Yeshua (Jesus) knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, **“Does this offend you? What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. But there are some of you who do not believe.”** For Yeshua (Jesus) knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. And He said, **“Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”**

From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Yeshua (Jesus) said to the twelve, **“Do you also want to go away?”**

Catholics do not understand what Yeshua (Jesus) meant when He said, “Do this in remembrance of Me” (Luke 22:19). Catholics believe they must LITERALLY eat His flesh and LITERALLY drink His blood in remembrance of Him. He said do this (THE PASSOVER - Luke 22:15), to remember Him, as Yeshua (Jesus) is our New Passover Lamb, to cover our sins with His blood, so that God’s wrath passes over us.

Ah, but Catholics respond with John 6:55, that His flesh is LITERAL FOOD INDEED, AND HIS BLOOD IS DRINK INDEED. Indeed His flesh and blood are food for the soul, but not LITERAL flesh, like bread (or a communion wafer), for His flesh is spiritual flesh and His blood is spiritual blood that we must cover ourselves with for the atonement of our sins, which if we eat and drink of these figuratively in honor of Him, we shall live forever (John 6:58).

Many of Yeshua’s (Jesus’) disciples heard these sayings and walked away. Catholics frequently respond with the questions, “Why did they walk away then?” and “Why didn’t Yeshua (Jesus) stop them and declare He was speaking figuratively?” To declare beforehand that one is speaking figuratively defeats the purpose of speaking figuratively. Yeshua (Jesus) didn’t stop the unbelievers and explain to them (John 6:64) lest He should prove Himself so they would understand with their hearts and turn (repent) (Matthew 10:15).

JOHN 6:64:

“But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Yeshua (Jesus) knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.

Judas Iscariot was not the only one who did not believe and was not the only one who betrayed Yeshua (Jesus).

Catholics hear these explanations but do not understand, and see these same verses but do not perceive. WHY? It is because they do not hear the law of YHWH (the Lord) or honor the Lawmaker’s perpetual laws. If they did, they would know that Yeshua (Jesus) could not possibly be speaking literally, commanding His followers to violate His own dietary laws to eat human flesh as a cannibal would, and drink human blood as a vampire would.

LEVITICUS 3:17:

This shall be a PERPETUAL STATUTE throughout your generations in all your dwellings: you shall EAT NEITHER FAT NOR BLOOD.

Almighty God is the Sovereign Supreme Lawmaker, but Catholics idolatry their Catholic Church and err in believing that their church is the infallible lawmaker. If Catholics would first hear and obey the law of YHWH (the Lord), THEN they could hear, understand, see, perceive, and know when Yeshua (Jesus) was speaking figuratively and know when He was speaking literally.

RISE PETER, KILL AND EAT

ACTS 10:9-13:

Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. And a voice came to him, “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.**”**

Why do many, after reading Acts 10, come to the determination that humans can now eat unclean creatures? It is because they use this verse (and many others) to turn their ears away from hearing the law (Proverbs 28:9). Peter did NOT eat anything unclean as a result of receiving the vision in Acts 10, as he did not turn his ear, his mind, or his heart away from hearing and keeping the law.

ACTS 10:14:

But Peter said, “Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean.”

Peter didn't eat any unclean creature as a result of receiving his vision and knew the command to “kill and eat” could not be a literal command, because God's dietary laws were written on his heart (Romans 2:15). Peter thought on the vision and later came to realize that Yeshua (Jesus), the Lord, was speaking to him in metaphoric language.

ACTS 10:28:

God has shown me that I should not call any MAN common or unclean.

Unclean creatures were used as a metaphor for the Gentile races. Peter came to understand that He was not to call any man common or unclean, since God cleansed the Gentiles and offered salvation to all people (Acts 11:18).

WAS THE TORAH (LAW) FOR THE JEWS ONLY?

A mainstream Christian false message is that the Tanakh (Old Testament) containing the Torah (law) within the first five books of the Scriptures is applicable to the Jews only; the Jews were given the law through Moses at Mount Sinai, but the Gentiles were never given the law and are therefore not bound to keep any of the 'Jewish' laws or festivals.

LEVITICUS 23:1-2:

And YHWH (the Lord) spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘The feasts of YHWH (the Lord), which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, THESE ARE MY FEASTS.’”

LEVITICUS 24:22:

You shall have the SAME LAW for the stranger and for one from your own country; for I am YHWH (the Lord) your God.

MATTHEW 28:18-20:

And Yeshua (Jesus) came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, TEACHING THEM [THE GENTILES] TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS [COMMANDMENTS] THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

The truth is that the Gentiles were given the Torah (law) at the same time they received the B'rit Hadashah (New Testament) containing the Good News Gospel of Yeshua Messiah (Jesus Christ). The Gentiles were given the same law as the Jews were, as it was handed to them with the Gospel. The Jewish festivals are not 'Jewish' feasts; they are God's feasts.

TO UNDERSTAND THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, TO KNOW THE ALLEGORIC, FIGURATIVE, METAPHORIC, PARABOLIC, AND PROPHETIC LANGUAGE OF SCRIPTURE, FIRST FEAR HIM AS GOD AND LAWMAKER, THEN KNOW AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, AND THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO HEAR, UNDERSTAND, SEE, AND PERCEIVE.

DEUTERONOMY 30:9-14:

For YHWH (the Lord) will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers, IF YOU OBEY the voice of YHWH (the Lord) your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to YHWH (the Lord) your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

For this commandment, which I command you today IS NOT TOO MYSTERIOUS FOR YOU, nor is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, THAT YOU MAY DO IT.

SHOULD WE BELIEVE IN 'LAW IS DONE AWAY WITH' LAWLESSNESS OR PRACTICE RIGHTEOUSNESS? SHOULD WE DO ALL HIS COMMANDMENTS?

MATTHEW 7:13-14:

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

MATTHEW 7:21-23:

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS!’”

There are many end times false prophets who promote lawlessness, stating that keeping His commandments is burdensome and unnecessary. Others say that the Torah (law) was for the Jews and was given to the Jews only.

It is not the law-doers who will be prohibited from entering the kingdom of heaven, but the ones who practice lawlessness. Gentiles who turn their ear from hearing the law are without excuse.

Many end times prophets proclaim that the law is impossible to keep. Did God give us laws that are impossible to keep? Which one(s)? If God gave us impossible commandments, then He would be an unfair God

DANIEL 12:10:

Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

1 JOHN 3:10:

In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God.

True worshipers must strive to practice righteousness, not practice lawlessness, believing the law is done away with, for such beliefs and such persons who advocate such beliefs are not of God.

ROMANS 2:13:

For not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified.

JAMES 1:22:

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

Blessed are those who do His commandments. How will they be blessed?

REVELATION 20:6:

Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Messiah (Christ), and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

REVELATION 22:14:

Blessed are THOSE WHO DO HIS COMMANDMENTS, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to those who keep God's commandments, those who acknowledge Him as the Almighty Supreme God and Lawgiver. Those who keep God's commandments are of the first resurrection (and rapture) and will enter into the kingdom of heaven and reign with Messiah (Christ) for a thousand years in His millennium kingdom.