

Religion (jesus)



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How does Jesus use of parables of reversal challenge the understanding of the kingdom of God among his contemporaries Jesus is the one who is source of salvation to all mankind, who loves them and heals them from their tribulations and sufferings and makes them good and beautiful. Health is an expression of beauty, in which resides the healthy and good soul; and a healthy person is one whose body and all parts of whose soul live together in harmony. Health needs morality and moderation in things. Jesus with his gifted skill of parables not merely cures us but also explains our relation with God and causes a change and reversal in the understanding the kingdom of God . Parables have the function of getting people out of where they are. In parables Jesus often relates the situation in which they are placed; specifically speaking tells the features of their lives in such a way that they are captivated by the art of his logic and truth. He expresses the feelings of his listeners and puts them under magic spell. All at once he opens their eyes and dawns upon them 'God is like that. That is how God acts with us.' Jesus does not talk about God in abstract way; but he begins with the people around him. He talks in such a way that the audiences believe what God is and how God acts.

In the parables Jesus did not speak only about God and man, but it was self portraits of Jesus himself amongst his people in the kingdom of God. In his parables Jesus portrayed himself in which his personal attractiveness with his distinctive way of speaking glitters with its full enlightenment. The kingdom of God was presented in most impressive manner. Kingdom of God was explained in the words of Jesus. The parable of prodigal son interpreted more than theological truth, where we become inwardly involved in a process of transformation. The younger the older son confronts us with the situation

where one questions, " Where do I stand Am I more the younger or the older son Or am I both" The motif of the two brothers indicates the inner polarity of souls. The parables are always aimed at reversal and transformation of audience perception and introducing a new concept of God and fellow beings.

How may history be interpreted as being too narrow for an understanding Jesus

What is History History is the record of facts of past events, especially the political, social and economic development, traditions culture and civilization of a nation. Jesus life was an event, a historical event influencing the mankind. And he brought new ideas and transformed the soul of his people. The memory of the people regarding the times of Jesus redeems them inwardly and brings historic reversal in their character. This act of redemption, which came in Jesus years of salvation, reached to posterity and brought revolution in the lives of future generations. Human beings are essentially historical, and their lives are shaped by the historical events. Thus they seek references from past and shape their destiny in the light of history. If we take the Jesus' life in terse and abstract manner, by thinking it as mere recording of events of past related to Jesus, then it appears that history is too narrow to encompass the whole truth of life of Jesus. Jesus' life and works make the past into present and offers such vast canvas of imagination that our remembrance and recollection internalize what has happened in the past.

As history is a record of past events, Jesus' life is an art of living a full life, in becoming human and consciously perceiving and accepting polarity of existence. Here he is acting as a physician. In his portrayal of God, God

shines on us and readers are deeply moved by the events of incarnation. Jesus looks to us as a painter. In the parables of Jesus he appears to us as an advisor, " Examine what is possible for you, my soul. Come to yourself. You have no other advisor." In the parable of the lost drachma, the woman seems to have lost one drachma out of ten drachma. She has lost not merely a piece but her centre. And without this centre the nine other drachmas are useless to her. Everything falls apart. The woman knows what she has lost. She has lost herself. Here the drachma appears as an image of Christ, and psychologically speaking the drachma symbolizes the self. Though we have a lot but when there is no centre we lack power and clarity. Here Jesus is psychologist, and a philosopher. So we may safely say that history is too narrow to interpret the life and understanding Jesus. It is a vast subject, the interpretation of which will be written by the posterity, and it will guide them to solve their worldly issues, and will teach them never lose the balance of soul when temptation and greed comes enslave them. Jesus is not a great teacher for the Christian world but he is guide for all humanity. (Grun)

References

Grun, Anselm. Jesus: The Image of Humanity. Newyork: Kreuz veriag GmbH & Co., 2001.