

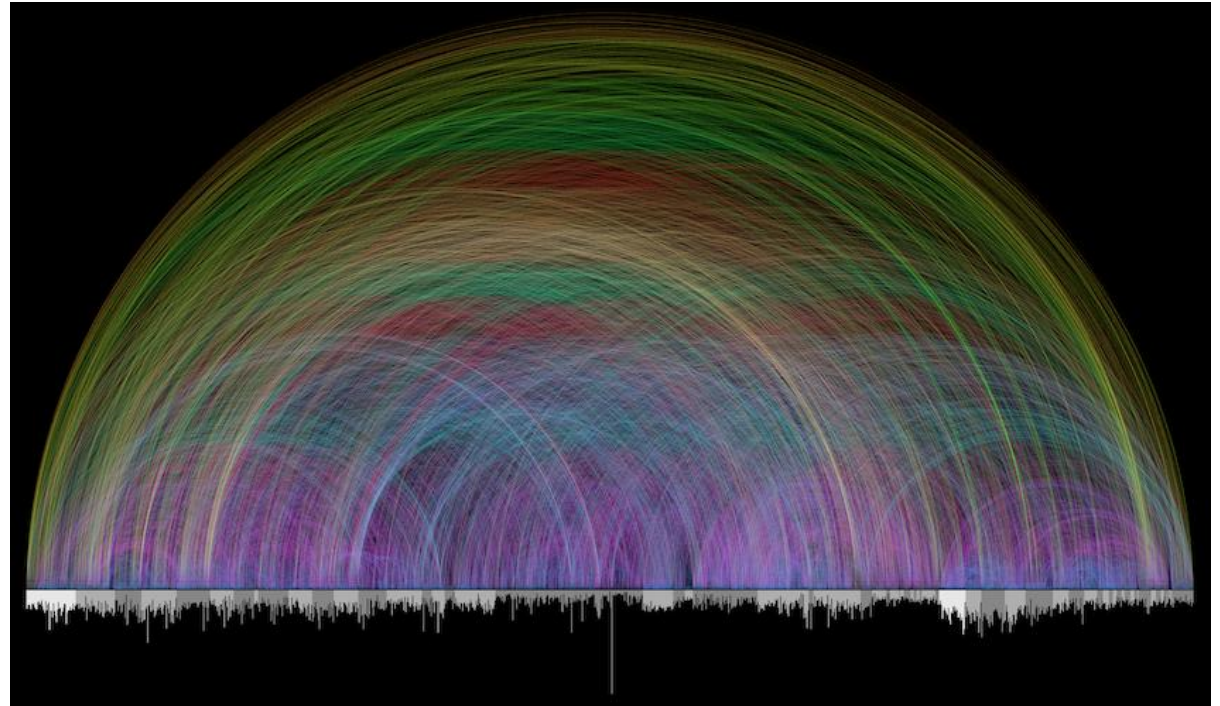
LECTIO DIVINA
“Sacred Reading”



**“THE NEW TESTAMENT
LIES HIDDEN IN THE OLD
TESTAMENT AND THE OLD
TESTAMENT IS UNVEILED
IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.”**

ST. AUGUSTINE

**THIS IS AN ARTISTIC
REPRESENTATION OF THE
63,779 CROSS REFERENCES
IN THE BIBLE.**



SACRED SCRIPTURE AND SACRED TRADITION AS SACRED DEPOSIT OF THE CHURCH

CHURCH HAS
PROVIDED SOME
GUARDRAILS BY
WHICH TO
NAVIGATE



INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE WITHIN THE TRADITION OF THE CHURCH

“But in order to keep the Gospel forever whole and alive within the Church, the Apostles left bishops as their successors, “handing over” to them “the authority to teach in their own place.”

DV 7

“Therefore the Apostles, handing on what they themselves had received, warn the faithful to hold fast to the traditions which they have learned either by word of mouth or by letter and to fight in defense of the faith.”

DV 8

“Therefore, brothers, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught, either by an oral statement or by a letter of ours.”

2 Thessalonians 2:15

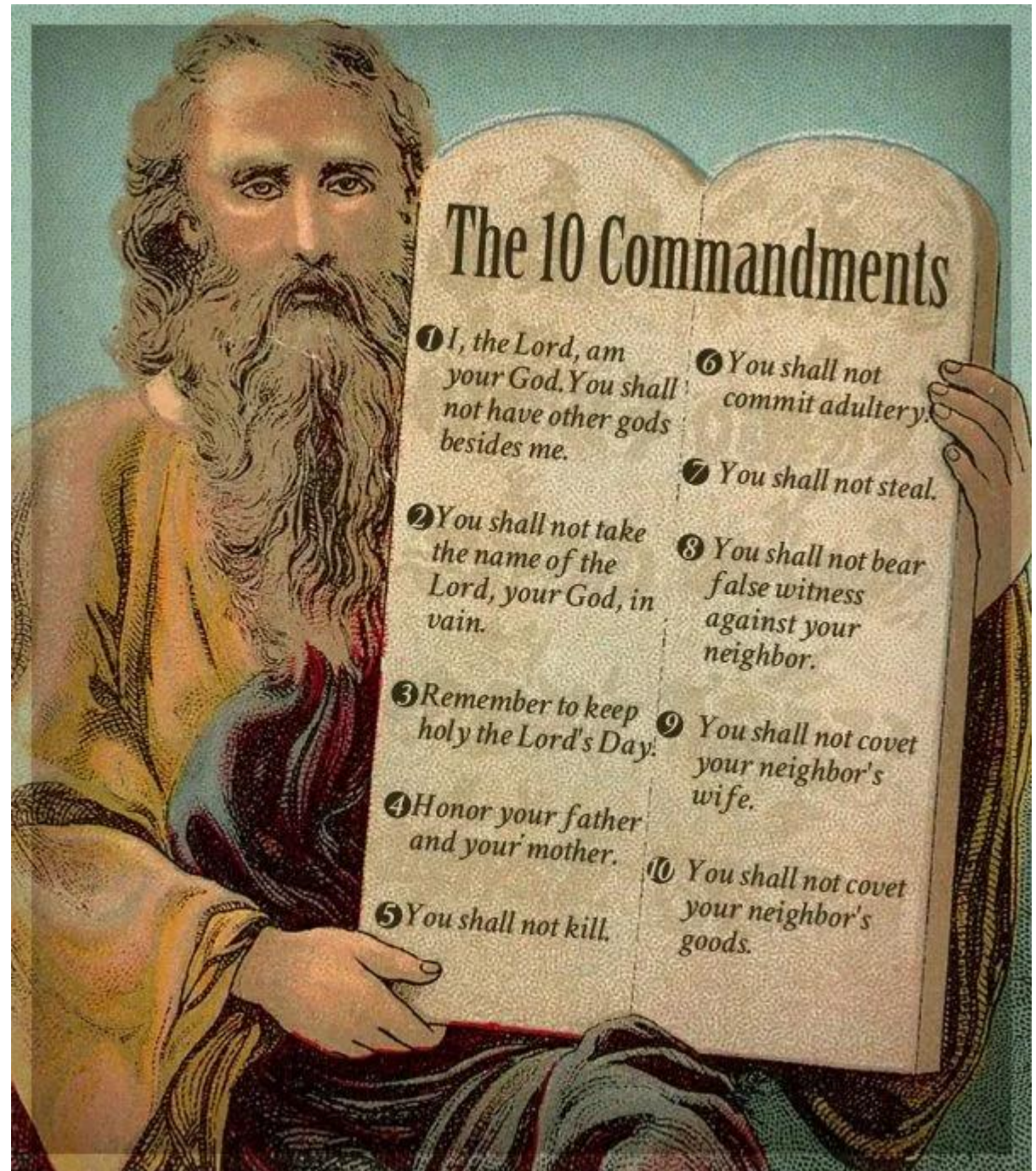
UNITY OF ALL SCRIPTURE



INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE WITHIN LITERARY GENRE

“FOR THE FACT IS THAT
TRUTH IS DIFFERENTLY
PRESENTED AND EXPRESSED
IN THE VARIOUS TYPES OF
HISTORICAL WRITING, IN
PROPHETICAL AND
POETICAL TEXTS, AND IN
OTHER FORMS OF LITERARY
EXPRESSION.”

DV 12



“ALL SCRIPTURE IS DIVINELY INSPIRED AND HAS ITS USE FOR TEACHING THE TRUTH AND REFUTING ERROR, FOR REFORMATION OF MANNERS AND DISCIPLINE IN RIGHT LIVING, SO THAT THE MAN WHO BELONGS TO GOD MAY BE EFFICIENT AND EQUIPPED FOR GOOD WORK OF EVERY KIND”

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17



BUT SINCE SACRED SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED, THERE IS ANOTHER AND NO LESS IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE OF CORRECT INTERPRETATION, WITHOUT WHICH SCRIPTURE WOULD REMAIN A DEAD LETTER.

“SACRED SCRIPTURE MUST BE READ AND INTERPRETED IN THE LIGHT OF THE SAME SPIRIT BY WHOM IT WAS WRITTEN.”

CCC 109-111



THREE QUESTIONS TO ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT



- CONVEYS – GOD’S LOVE, HIS JOY, HIS PEACE, HIS HOPE HIS NATURE AND HIS PLAN FOR US AND THE WORLD.
 - WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?
- CONVERTS – (METANOIA- A TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE OF HEART) BY REVEALING TRUTH, HEALING, TEACHING, REBUKING, CORRECTING, TRAINING, STRENGTHENING, ENCOURAGING, COMFORTING.
 - HOW DO YOU WANT ME TO CHANGE?
- COUNSELS – IT MOLDS US INTO THE SHAPE OF JESUS, ALIGNING US WITH HIS KINGDOM VALUES AND GIVES US VISION, GUIDES US INTO THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL.
 - WHO DO YOU WANT ME TO BE?

“DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD’S WILL IS—HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL.”

*The precepts of
the Lord are right,
rejoicing the
heart*

Psalm 19:8

1 “ALL THE COMMANDMENT WHICH I COMMAND YOU THIS DAY YOU SHALL BE CAREFUL TO DO, THAT YOU MAY LIVE AND MULTIPLY, AND GO IN AND POSSESS THE LAND WHICH THE LORD SWORE TO GIVE TO YOUR FATHERS.

2 AND YOU SHALL REMEMBER ALL THE WAY WHICH THE LORD YOUR GOD HAS LED YOU THESE FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS, THAT HE MIGHT HUMBLE YOU, TESTING YOU TO KNOW WHAT WAS IN YOUR HEART, WHETHER YOU WOULD KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, OR NOT.

3 AND HE HUMBLER YOU AND LET YOU HUNGER AND FED YOU WITH MANNA, WHICH YOU DID NOT KNOW, NOR DID YOUR FATHERS KNOW; THAT HE MIGHT MAKE YOU KNOW THAT MAN DOES NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT THAT MAN LIVES BY EVERYTHING THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE LORD.

DEUTERONOMY 8:1-3

***Blessed are those
who keep his
testimonies,
who seek him
with their whole
heart***

Psalm 119:2

5 FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ACCORDING TO THE FLESH SET THEIR MINDS ON THE THINGS OF THE FLESH, BUT THOSE WHO LIVE ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT SET THEIR MINDS ON THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT.

6 TO SET THE MIND ON THE FLESH IS DEATH, BUT TO SET THE MIND ON THE SPIRIT IS LIFE AND PEACE.

7 FOR THE MIND THAT IS SET ON THE FLESH IS HOSTILE TO GOD; IT DOES NOT SUBMIT TO GOD'S LAW, INDEED IT CANNOT;

8 AND THOSE WHO ARE IN THE FLESH CANNOT PLEASE GOD.

ROMANS 8:5-8

*In all your ways
acknowledge him,
and he will
make straight
your paths.*

Proverbs 3:6

1 THE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON, SON OF DAVID, KING OF ISRAEL:

PROLOGUE

2 THAT MEN MAY KNOW WISDOM AND INSTRUCTION,
UNDERSTAND WORDS OF INSIGHT,

3 RECEIVE INSTRUCTION IN WISE DEALING,
RIGHTEOUSNESS, JUSTICE, AND EQUITY;

4 THAT PRUDENCE MAY BE GIVEN TO THE SIMPLE,
KNOWLEDGE AND DISCRETION TO THE YOUTH—

5 THE WISE MAN ALSO MAY HEAR AND INCREASE IN
LEARNING,

AND THE MAN OF UNDERSTANDING ACQUIRE
SKILL,

6 TO UNDERSTAND A PROVERB AND A FIGURE,
THE WORDS OF THE WISE AND THEIR RIDDLES.

7 THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF
KNOWLEDGE;

FOOLS DESPISE WISDOM AND INSTRUCTION.

“AND HE SAID TO THEM, “TO YOU HAS BEEN GIVEN THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD, BUT FOR THOSE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS IN PARABLES; SO THAT THEY MAY INDEED SEE BUT NOT PERCEIVE, AND MAY INDEED HEAR BUT NOT UNDERSTAND; LEST THEY SHOULD TURN AGAIN, AND BE FORGIVEN.”

MARK 4:11-13



The word parable comes from the Greek and means comparison, analogy or juxtaposition. A parable is a type of narrative with an emotive or moral significance which initiates comparison.

They are usually short stories, memorable through an image – often drawn from nature or daily life in the time of Jesus – that convey profound spiritual truths.

- Simple enough for anyone to understand. The use of known examples and specific images help make spiritual realities accessible.
- They contain a mysterious element, a deeper meaning that only becomes clear with deeper consideration.
- Parables both conceal and reveal the Kingdom in all its mystery if the hearer is open:

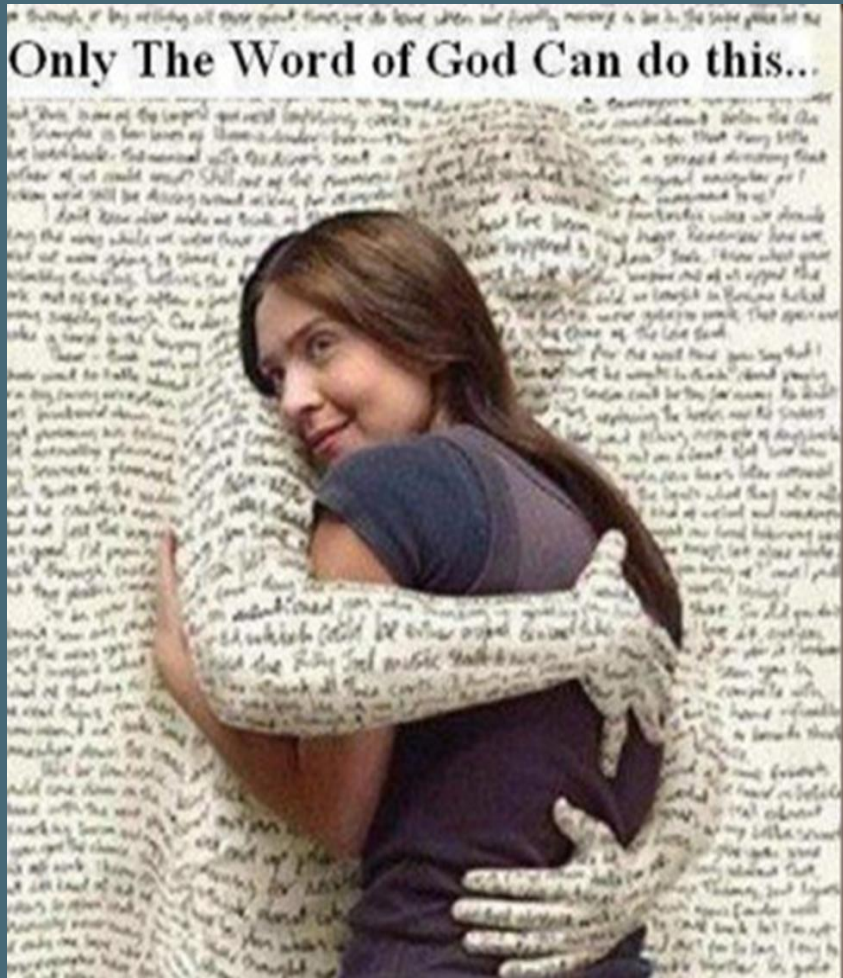
THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

MATTHEW 13:1-9



That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, 6 but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell upon thorns,

and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears, let him hear.”



“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. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to Whom we must give account.”

Hebrews 4:12