



St. Mary & St. Joseph Coptic Orthodox Church
11308 Yonge St, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1K9

Daily Meditations • June 19, 2020

THE ROCK

THE LORD IS MY ROCK.
- PSALM 18:2



Reflection on (Matthew 13: 24-38) by N.S.

In today's Gospel, the Lord Jesus teaches the multitude. He does so by telling parables to fulfill the prophecy: "I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world." (Psalm 78:2)

There are a lot of reasons that the Lord chose this way of speaking, I am sure many theologian researched that but





personally I think that Our Lord knows His creatures and He knows that their mind is stimulated by creative ways. We often find teachers that say what they teach in a very straight forward and almost blunt manner. Some philosophers and thinkers in general might really be engaged in that but most of the people will not be able to

1. Focus and
2. Accept the teaching with an open heart.



And we know that our Lord Jesus Christ came for everyone not just a certain type of person that is able to understand what He is saying. If that was the case then Christianity would be a doctrine like any other, one that stimulates the brain, however, our God is a God that gave us a doctrine to revive our souls, to make them alive in Him! Using parables also allowed the Lord to speak to each and everyone individually, having each person resonate with a certain side of the parable (not saying that they are up to individual interpretation).





The first parable in the extract we have from Matthew 13 is the one that resonated with me the most, the parable talking about the man whose enemy sowed tares among the wheat. (Matt 13:24-29) Later on in the chapter Our Lord explained the parable by explaining that, "The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one." (Matt 13:38) And in the end, unlike the wheat, the tares will be burned in fire.



As soon as I read this it reminded me of when we as Christians wonder why sometimes we struggle so much to do the right thing and then we see someone who didn't do the right thing be more successful than us in the world...



A typical example of this is during exams when one cheats and the other doesn't cheat. When the cheater gets the better grade... it doesn't motivate us much to do the right thing IF WE ONLY LOOK AT THIS, the world (that is the field in the parable). This parable teaches us that both might grow together (the wheat and the tares, the godly and the sinful) and you won't see a difference in between them, indeed, the sower will not gather neither of them now lest while sowing the tares he uproots some wheat by accident. On the contrary he will make them both grow together (as we, children of God, grow in the normal world), then at the end of days (judgement) is when the difference will be made and seen.





This should make us never hesitate to do the right thing even if it means being looked down upon or being less successful in the world because that will be seen in the most important (and longer part) of our existence when, *“Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetops.”* (Luke 12:3)

May the Lord always grant us the guidance and grace to do that which is good and beneficial, Amen.



Connect with us:

 smsj.ca/the-rock/

 @TheRockatSMSJ

