

WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE?



Pastor Augie Iadicicco

1. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN LIKE?

- A Sower (Matt. 13:24)
- A Mustard Seed (Matt. 13:31)
- Yeast in Dough (Matt. 13:33)
- Hidden Treasure (Matt. 13:44)
- Merchant of Pearls (Matt. 13:45)
- A Net Catching Fish (Matt. 13:47)

“the Kingdom of Heaven is like ...”



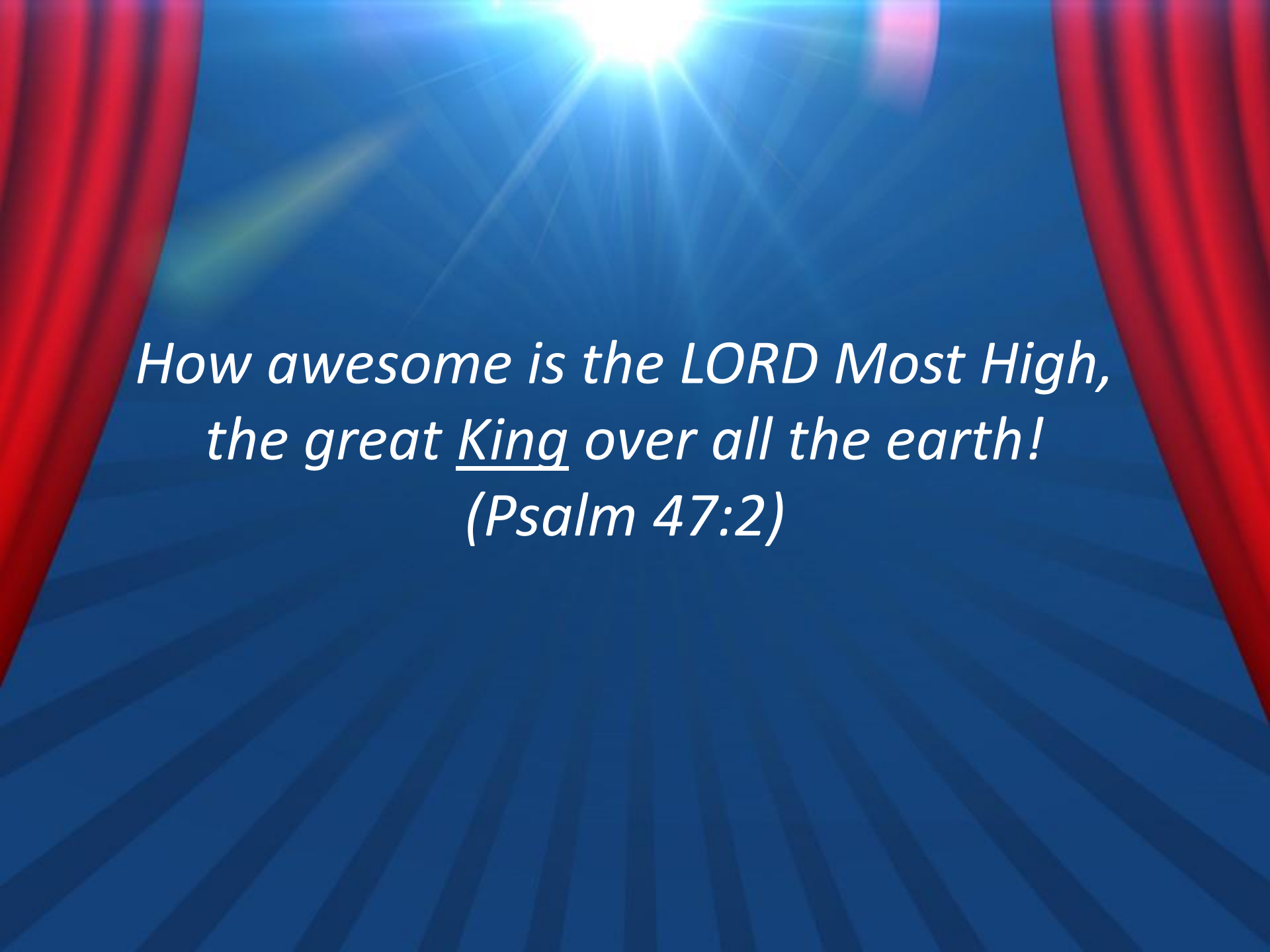


The Kingdom is not PHYSICAL or
Geographical.

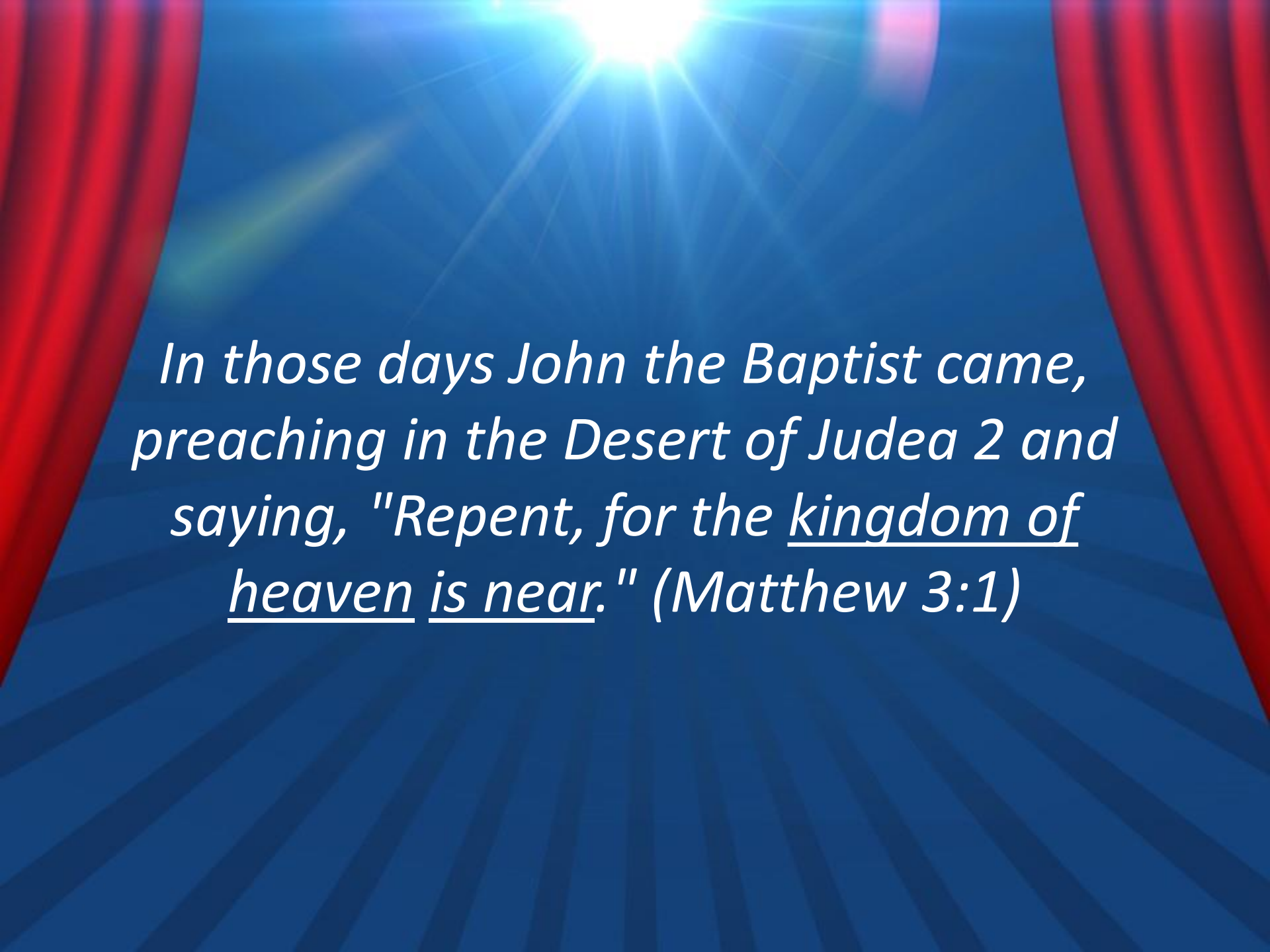
Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place." (John 18:36)

The Kingdom of Heaven =
The REIGN of God.

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A stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. A bright light source is positioned at the top center, creating a lens flare effect. The floor of the stage is blue with a radial pattern of lines extending from the center towards the edges.

*How awesome is the LORD Most High,
the great King over all the earth!
(Psalm 47:2)*



In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 3:1)

The Kingdom is SPIRITUAL.

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, (Romans 14:7)



Thy kingdom come; thy will be done.
(Matthew 6:10)



2. WHY PARABLES?

A stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. At the top center, there is a bright light source, possibly a sun or a stage light, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a dark blue color with a subtle pattern of diagonal lines.

What Is A Parable?

Vine's Expository Dictionary of N.T. Words, as the "**placing of one thing beside another with a view to comparison**"

A stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. A bright light shines from the top center, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a dark blue with a subtle pattern of diagonal lines.

What Is A Parable?

A common definition of a parable is:

**"an earthly story
... with a heavenly meaning"**

Why Did Jesus Teach In Parables?

Open Bibles to Matthew 13

(p. 861 in the pew Bibles)

Why Did Jesus Teach In Parables?

To CONCEAL

He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

(Matthew 13:11)

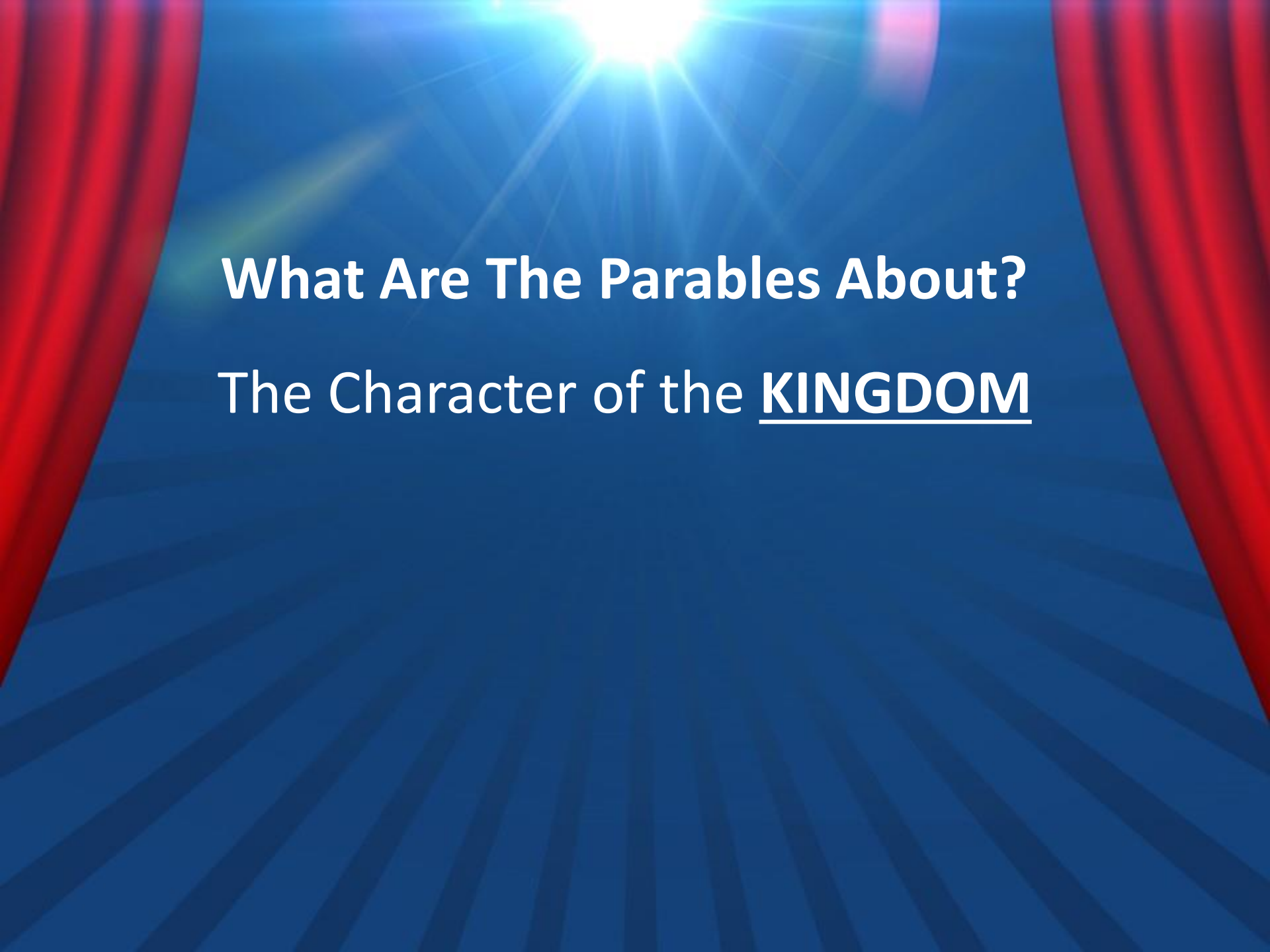
Why Did Jesus Teach In Parables?

To REVEAL

*But blessed are your eyes for they see,
and your ears for they hear; for
assuredly, I say to you that many
prophets and righteous men desired to
see what you see, and did not see it,
and to hear what you hear, and did not
hear it. (Matthew 13:16-17)*



What Are The Parables About?

The background of the slide is a stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. At the top center, there is a bright, glowing light source, possibly a sun or a stage light, which creates a lens flare effect with rays of light extending downwards. The floor of the stage is a dark blue color with a pattern of lighter blue diagonal stripes.

What Are The Parables About?
The Character of the KINGDOM

A blue stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. A bright light source at the top center creates a lens flare effect, illuminating the stage. The floor of the stage has a pattern of diagonal lines.

What Are The Parables About?

The Character of the **KINGDOM**

The Character of the **KING**



What Are The Parables About?

The Character of the **KINGDOM**

The Character of the **KING**

The Character of the **KING's SUBJECTS**

The image depicts a stage with red curtains on either side. At the top center, a bright light source, possibly a sun or a stage light, creates a lens flare effect with rays of light extending downwards. The background is a deep blue color with a pattern of diagonal lines that converge towards the bottom, suggesting a perspective of a stage floor or a tunnel. The overall mood is dramatic and focused.

How Do We Interpret Parables?

A stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. A bright light source is positioned at the top center, casting a strong glow and creating a lens flare effect. The background is a deep blue color with a subtle pattern of diagonal lines radiating from the light source.

How Do We Interpret Parables?

1. Don't over-allegorize them.

A stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. A bright light source is positioned at the top center, casting a strong glow and creating a lens flare effect. The background is a deep blue color with a subtle pattern of diagonal lines radiating from the light source.

How Do We Interpret Parables?

1. Don't over-allegorize them.
2. Don't trivialize them.

The background of the slide is a blue stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. At the top center, there is a bright, glowing light source that creates a lens flare effect, with rays of light extending downwards across the stage floor.

How Do We Interpret Parables?

1. Don't over-allegorize them.
2. Don't trivialize them.
3. Consider context carefully.

A stage with red curtains on the left and right sides. A bright light source is positioned at the top center, creating a lens flare effect. The floor of the stage is blue with a pattern of diagonal lines radiating from the center.

3. THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

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*For this people's heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes....
(Matthew 13:15)*



Who is “The Sower?”

*He answered, “The one who sowed
the good seed is the Son of Man.*”

(Matthew 13:37)



What is “The Seed?”

*When anyone hears the message
about the kingdom ...*

(Matthew 13:19)

The Four Types of Soil:

The “Wayside/PATH”

when anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

(Matthew 13:4, 19)

The Four Types of Soil:

The “Stony/ROCKY Places”

The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21 But since they have no root, they last only a short time.

(Matthew 13:5, 20)

The Four Types of Soil:

The “Among the THORNS”

The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

(Matthew 13:7, 22)

The Four Types of Soil:

The “Among the THORNS”
(Matthew 13:7, 22)

- The WORRIES of this world
(Matthew 13:22)

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The “Among the THORNS”
(Matthew 13:7, 22)

- The WORRIES of this world
(Matthew 13:22)
- The deceitfulness of WEALTH
(Matthew 13:22)

The Four Types of Soil:

The “GOOD Soil”

But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

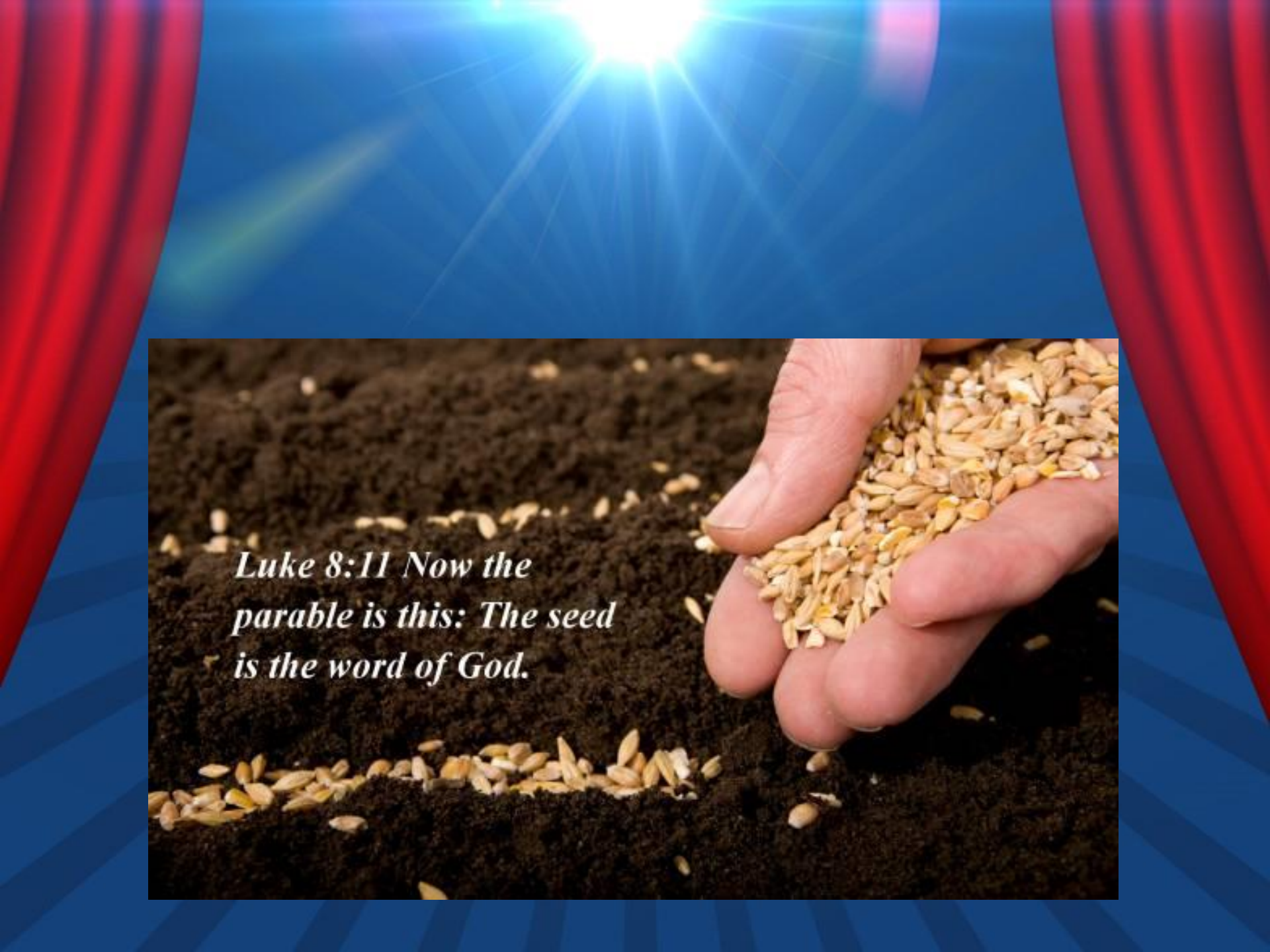
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(Matthew 13:8, 23)

A hand is shown sowing golden-brown seeds into dark, rich soil. The background features a bright sunburst effect against a blue sky, framed by red curtains. The text is overlaid on the lower-left portion of the image.

*Luke 8:11 Now the
parable is this: The seed
is the word of God.*



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**4. WORKING THE SOIL OF YOUR
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- PROTECT - guard against the thorns of anxiety and riches
- PLANT - sow God's seed of His Word! ... *"Let it Grow!"*