

A close-up photograph of a wheat field at sunset. The foreground shows several stalks of wheat in sharp focus, with their golden heads catching the low light. The background is a vast field of wheat stretching to a horizon line, with rolling hills visible under a sky filled with soft, golden clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

**MATTHEW**

*Kingdom Secrets*

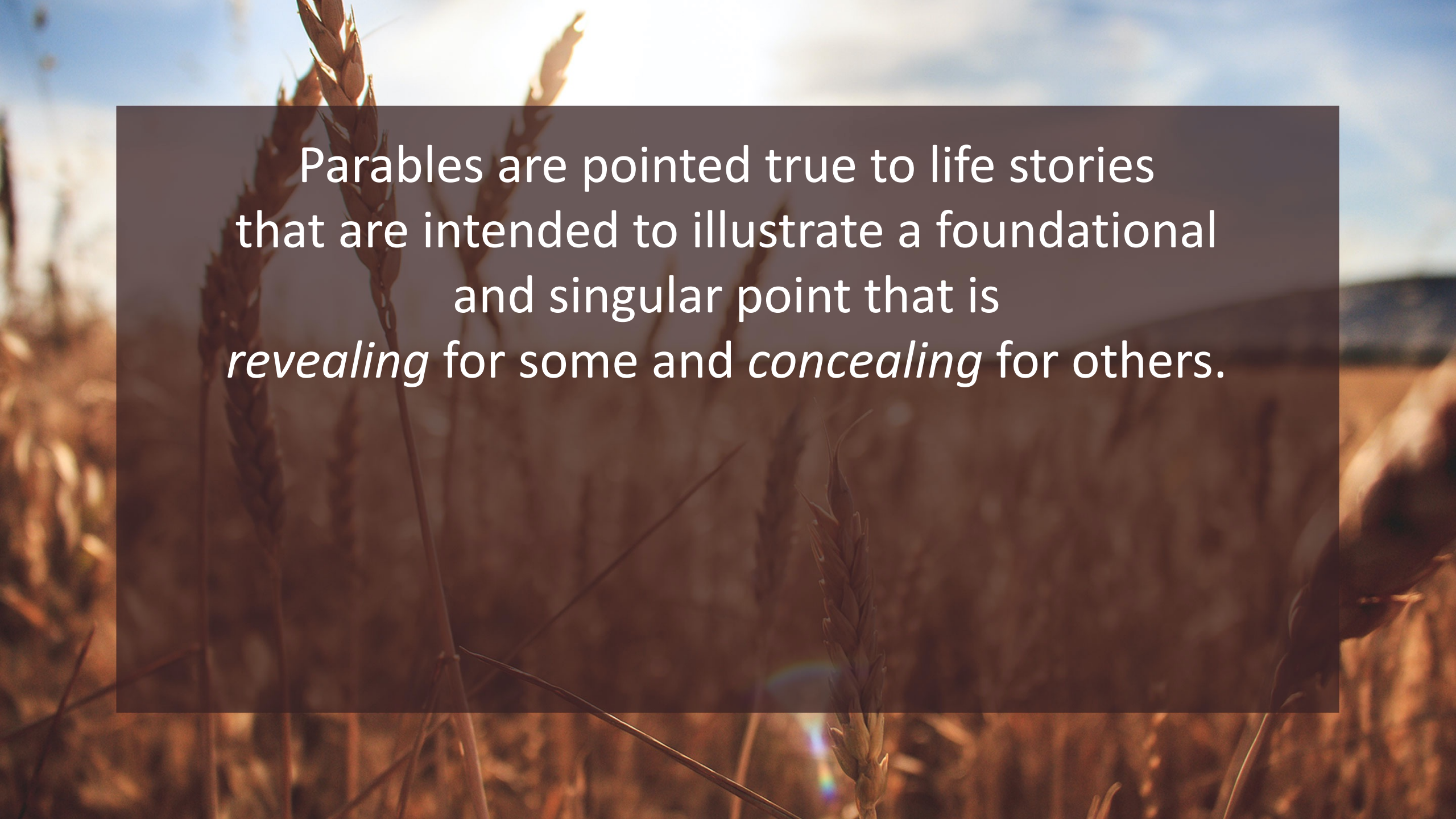


A golden wheat field at sunset with hills in the background. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The wheat stalks are in sharp focus in the foreground, while the background is softly blurred. The sky is a mix of blue and orange.

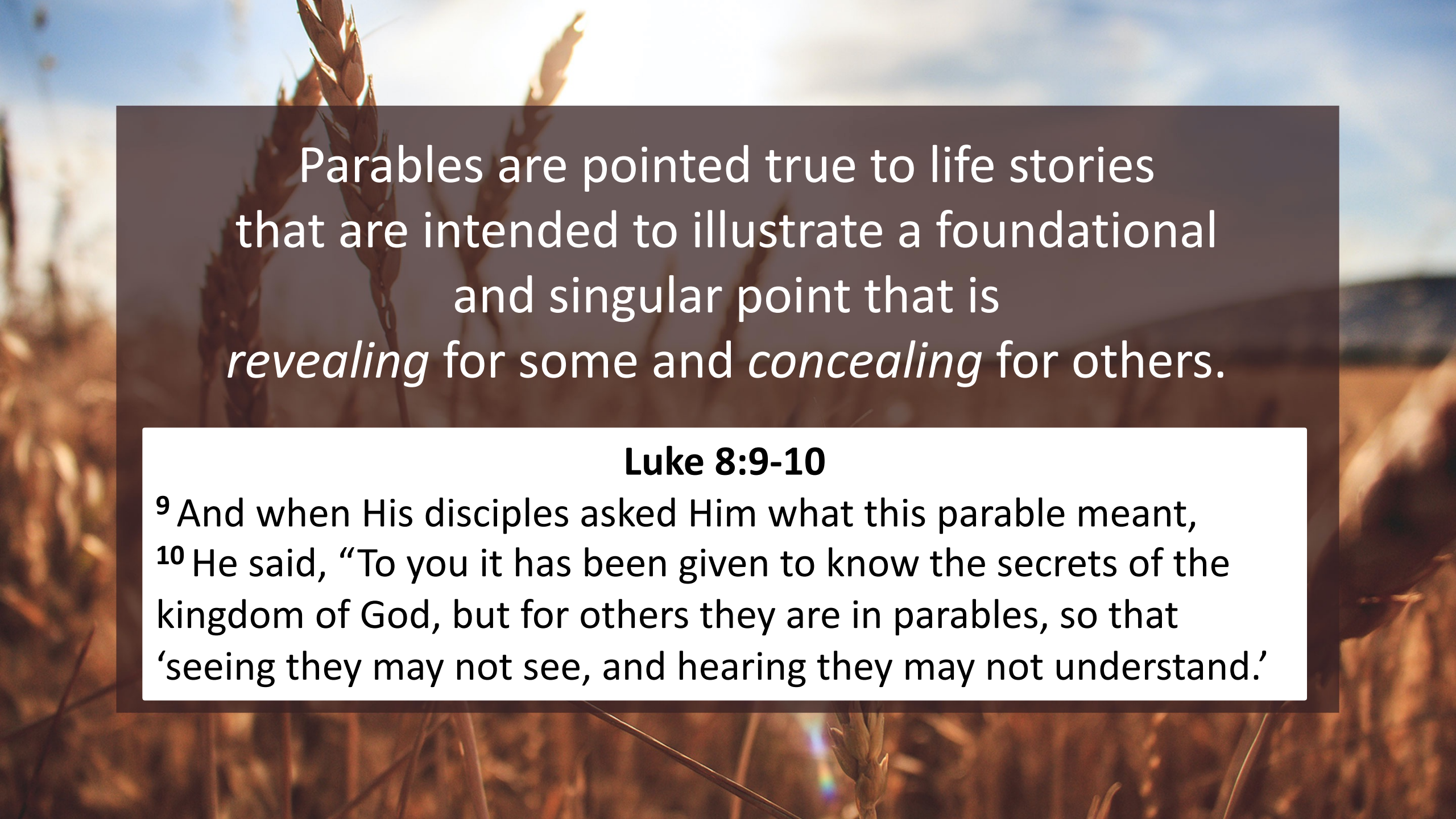
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Parables are pointed true to life stories  
that are intended to illustrate a foundational  
and singular point that is  
*revealing* for some and *concealing* for others.

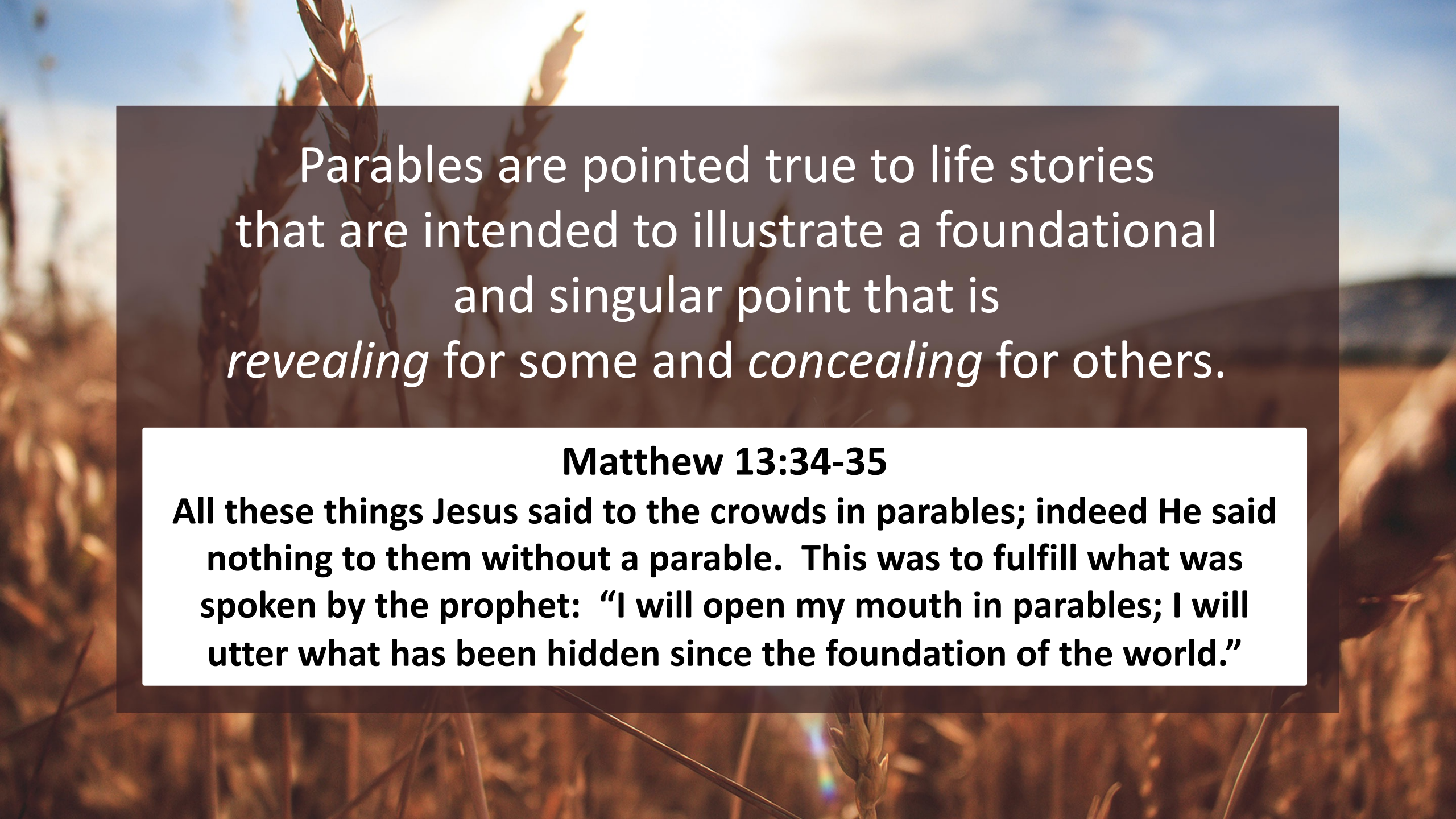


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**Luke 8:9-10**

<sup>9</sup> And when His disciples asked Him what this parable meant,  
<sup>10</sup> He said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’”





Parables are pointed true to life stories that are intended to illustrate a foundational and singular point that is *revealing* for some and *concealing* for others.

**Matthew 13:34-35**

**All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed He said nothing to them without a parable. This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet: “I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.”**





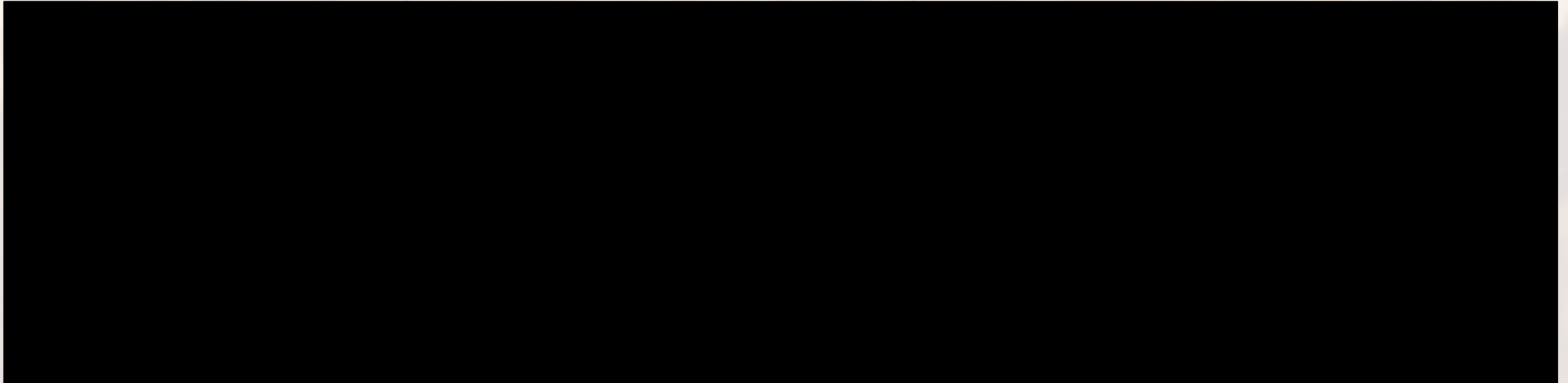
# MATTHEW

*Kingdom*

*Secrets*

# MATTHEW *Kingdom Secrets*

**What is the “Kingdom of Heaven”?**





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This term is used 32 times in the Gospel of Matthew and not once in any of the other Gospels. They seem to use “Kingdom of God” as an equivalent.

**The Kingdom of Heaven  
is the place where the king reigns.  
*At present God allows Satan a certain  
degree of autonomy...“prince of the air”...  
but there is line drawn beyond which he cannot cross.***



# MATTHEW *Kingdom Secrets*

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This term is used 32 times in the Gospel of Matthew and not once in any of the other Gospels. They seem to use “Kingdom of God” as an equivalent.

**The Kingdom of Heaven**

**is the place where the king reigns.**

***For now, God reigns in heaven and in the hearts of men and women who have surrendered to His sovereignty. Someday, He will reign again on earth for a thousand years.***

# MATTHEW *Kingdom Secrets*

## **Matthew 23:13-15**

***But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!***

*For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.*

***Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!***

*For you travel across sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.*



# Kingdom Secrets

Matthew 3:2 **"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."** *John the Baptist*

Matthew 4:7 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,  
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 5:10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
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# Kingdom Secrets

**Matthew 5:19** “Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be call great in the kingdom of heaven.”

**Matthew 10:7** And proclaim as you go, saying,  
“The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

**Matthew 11:11** Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

**Matthew 11:12** From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.

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# Matthew 13:44-46





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## **The Parable of the Hidden Treasure**

<sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up.

Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

## **The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value**

<sup>45</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls,

<sup>46</sup> who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

# Matthew 13:44-46

**There are two different ways of interpreting this parable.**

**First**- the majority, most common interpretation is known as the *discipleship view*.

**Second**- the minority, less common and more recent interpretation is known as the *Christological view*.



# Matthew 13:44-46 *'discipleship view'*

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<sup>44</sup> "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up.

Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

**The treasure is more valuable than anything and everything that he has.**

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# Matthew 13:44-46 *'discipleship view'*

## The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

<sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up.

Then **in his joy** he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

## The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value

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# Matthew 13:44-46 *'discipleship view'*

The pearl is more valuable than anything and everything that he has.

that field.

## **The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value**

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**Valued at  
\$375,000**



**Valued at  
\$375,000**



**\$15,000  
per pearl**







# Palawan Island Philippines





26 inches long





26 inches long



Valued at





26 inches long

Valued at  
\$100,000,000





So...therefore....what now?



# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the 'kingdom of heaven'?**





So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

**Your things?**



# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

Your things?

**Your position of influence?**

# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

Your things?

Your position of influence?

**Your power?**



# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

Your things?

Your position of influence?

Your power?

**Your pride?**

# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

Your things?

Your position of influence?

Your power?

Your pride?

**Your comfort?**



# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

Your things?

Your position of influence?

Your power?

Your pride?

Your comfort?

**Your pleasure?**

# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

Your things?

Your position of influence?

Your power?

Your pride?

Your comfort?

Your pleasure?

**Your secret life?**



# So....therefore.....what now?

**What is more valuable to you than the Kingdom of Heaven?**

Your things?

Your position of influence?

Your power?

Your pride?

Your comfort?

Your pleasure?

Your secret life?

**Yourself?**

# Matthew 13:44-46 *'Christological view'*





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# So....therefore.....what now?

**What was/is so valuable to Christ that the Kingdom of Heaven came first and foremost?**





you



US



**Our things?  
Our positions of influence?  
Our power?  
Our pride?  
Our comfort?  
Our pleasure?  
Our secret lives?  
Ourselves?**



*Discipleship View*

He is no fool who gives up what  
he cannot keep  
to gain what he cannot lose.

*-Jim Elliot*



A close-up photograph of golden wheat stalks in a field. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden light and a soft rainbow in the lower part of the image. The background shows a vast field of wheat stretching towards the horizon under a blue sky with light clouds.

## *Christological View*

He is no fool who gives up what  
he cannot keep  
to gain what he cannot lose.



## *Christological View*

He is no fool who gives up what  
he cannot keep  
to gain what he cannot lose  
*when he has been purchased with the  
costly sacrifice of his Redeemer.*