I. Jesus’s use of parables is a time-honored method of presenting truth.

A. Nathan’s use of a parable to present God’s truth to David has many implications.

B. Understanding parables is a critical step in developing ears to hear and eyes to see God’s Truth.

C. David is God’s poster child for helping us see the way He speaks to us.

II. Parables teach the distinction between the spirit of the law and the letter of the law.

A. Consider 2 Corinthians 3:6’s proclamation.

B. Let’s remember the letter of the law in the case with David and Bathsheba.

1. Commandments 6, 7, 9 and 10 were broken: Exodus 20

2. Leviticus 20:10

3. Psalm 50:18-22

4. Ecclesiastes 12:14; Mark 4:22

III. David’s ability to compartmentalize is a chronic problem of human nature.

A. God’s word is never meant to be understood merely in the third or second person.

B. The qualities we condemn in others often are our own character flaws.

1. Romans 1 – 3 teach the NT theology of compartmentalization.

IV. The balance between justice and mercy is dramatically seen in David’s response.

A. David accepted the verdict; however, he did not dwell on the sin.

1. The name God gave Solomon sends an important signal of grace.

B. David’s Psalms 32 and 50 teach the summation of the lessons of grace, which binds together justice and mercy.

C. David’s return to the battlefield teaches us that God offers us a fresh start following failure, even though consequences are not erased: 1 John 1:9 and Micah 7:18

**The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning,

Great is Your faithfulness, O Lord; Great is your faithfulness. *(Repeat 2X)*

Second Hymn on Reverse Side

**Great is Thy Faithfulness**

**1.** Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,

There is no shadow of turning with Thee;

Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not.

As Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

***Refrain***

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning, new mercies I see;*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

**2.** Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

***Refrain***

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning, new mercies I see;*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*