

b. Extended figures of speech

- 1) fable--a fictitious story used to teach a moral lesson.

Judges 9:8-15

II Kgs. 14:9

- 2) parable--an extended simile. This is a familiar genre used by Jesus. E.g. the common pattern, "The kingdom of heaven is like . . ."

Historically the parables have commonly been allegorized by Christian interpreters. This led in the late nineteenth century to a reaction by historical critical scholars who argued that the parables have only one main point of comparison. The new direction was heralded particularly by Adolf Juelicher, Die Gleichnisreden Jesu (1910).

While I share the caution regarding allegorization of the parables, it seems to me that the restriction of every parable to one main point may be unduly dogmatic. E.g., Matt. 13:1-23.

Parables may have multiple points of comparison

- 3) allegory--an extended metaphor.

Is. 5:1-7

Jn. 10:1-16

- 4) a crucial distinction--what is the difference between allegory and allegorical interpretation?

- when we interpret an allegory we are still practicing grammatical/historical interpretation. - The author sets the rules
 - When we allegorize we ignore grammatical/historical interpretation. We change the rules to find an alternate meaning - The interpreter sets the rules; ignores authorial intent