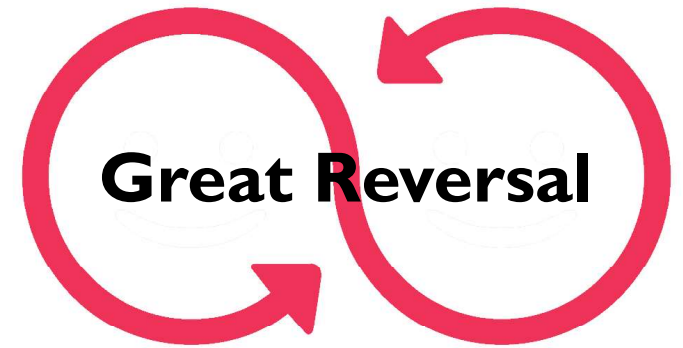
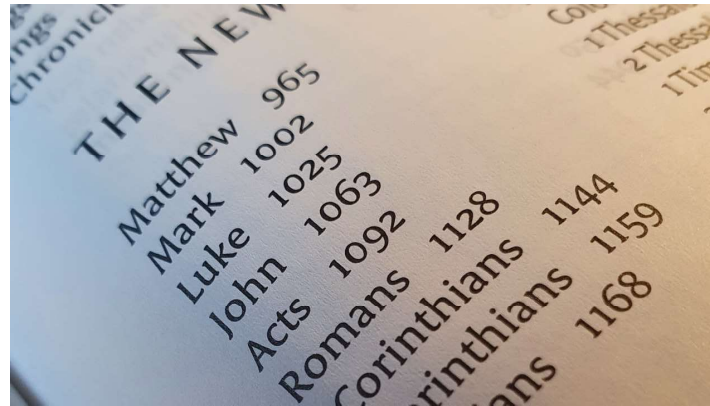
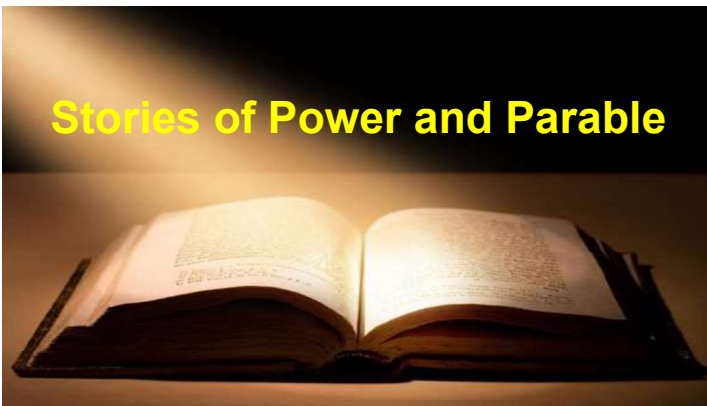




**Message**



## Stories of Power and Parable

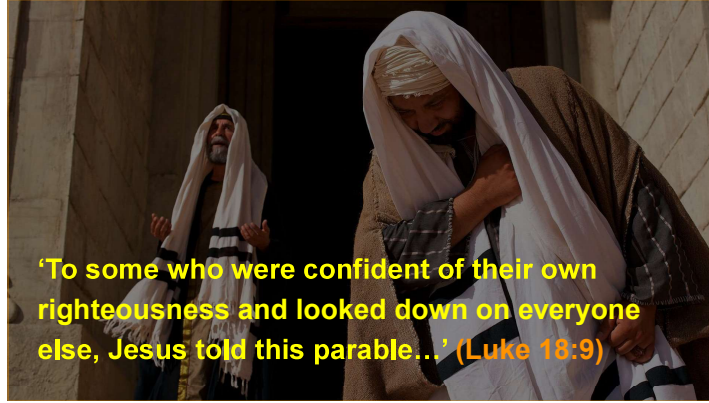


**“God, I thank you that I am not like other people – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.”  
(Luke 18:11-12)**

**'But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner."  
(Luke 18:13)**



**'To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable...'  
(Luke 18:9)**



**"God, I thank you that I am not like other people – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get."  
(Luke 18:11-12)**



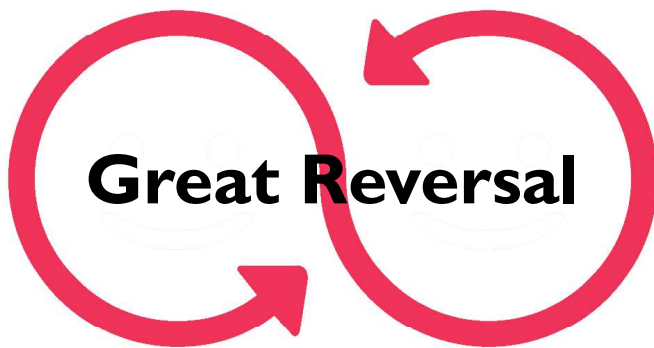
**'But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner."  
(Luke 18:13)**





**'mercy' = to cover over**

**'I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified [made right] before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'** (Luke 18:14)



**'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.'** (Luke 18:16-17)





'But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known...This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus...

God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood – to be received by faith.'  
(Romans 3:21-25)



In response to the grace we have received, is compassion, welcome, forgiveness and the honouring of the other seen in our lives?



'Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way as you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.' (Matthew 7:1-2)

'So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith...There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.'  
(Galatians 3:26-28)

'if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ...in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.'  
(Philippians 2:1, 3-4)

Elsewhere, he also says: 'Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.'  
(Colossians 3:13)

- "Those children are not showing proper respect in the Sunday service."

- "This organ music is boring, why is our worship style so dated?"

- "When will the younger generations step up – back in my day I was juggling..."

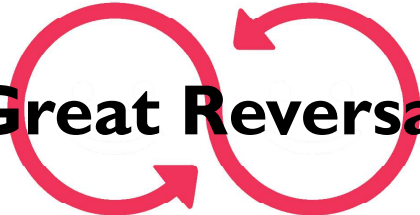
- "I'll never forgive them and I'm never going back."

- "There is no reverence for God here."

- "When will my needs be met."

'Pride preaches merit; humility pleads for compassion. Pride separates by putting others down; humility identifies with others, recognising we all have the same need. Pride destroys through its alienating self-service; humility opens doors with its power to sympathise with the struggle we share. Pride turns up its nose; humility offers an open hand.'  
(Darrell Bock, NIV Application Commentary)

Stories of Power and Parable



**Great Reversal**

Humility and Pride

**MP-528 *O worship the King***

