

## Jesus, the teacher      Part 2

In a surprise move, Jesus used parables *to hide the truth* from unbelievers!

At the same time, the parables were to make the truth clearer to his disciples. Matthew 13.11.

But why hide the truth from those who needed to become believers? It was because this was not only an act of judgement upon them, but also an act of mercy!

**First**, the non-believers invited God's judgement because they “loved darkness rather than light” John 3.19. So they were given what they wanted!

Jesus also showed his disciples that this blindness was a fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy –

“Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the heart of this people has grown dull.

Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed . . .” Isaiah 6.9,10

**Second**, At the same time, by God's mercy, these unbelievers were denied opportunity to further reject the truths being taught. That would only have increased their condemnation.

**Third**, Jesus was able to tell his disciples, “But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear.” Matthew 13.16.

Are we like the disciples – not only hearing God's word, but also understanding his wonderful truths?

\*

\*

\*

**Jesus used parables more extensively and more effectively than any other teacher.**

**Ken Packer**