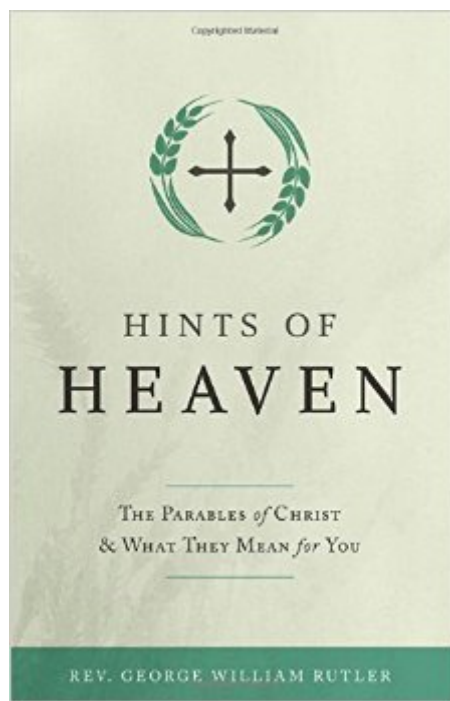


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Hints Of Heaven



Synopsis

Christ knew that the splendor of heaven is too great for us to bear just now, and so he used parables as clues to the mystery of paradise. In them are hints of heaven, and they offer profound spiritual advice meant to guide us on the road to eternal glory. In our age, Christ's Parables are often reduced to exercises in moralism. In these pages, Fr. George Rutler acclaimed author and EWTN television host unveils these deceptively simple stories, showing you their hidden meanings and how they apply to our own age and way of life. Let Fr. Rutler take you on an enriching tour of Scripture's 24 parables as you learn: Tares in the Field of the Lord: Why it's necessary that scandals beset the Church and how it brings about a stronger harvest. The Mustard Seed: Why it gave hope to the early Church and prefigures her glorious future. The Yeast: How God speaks in a gentle and inward voice which melts the soul, and how you could be drowning Him out. The Hidden Treasure: Are you responding properly to the unique gifts Christ has given you? The Net: Many will be sifted out. How to be sure you're among the souls He keeps. The Unmerciful Servant: Not only must you forgive, you must convert the offender. Are you a channel for God's grace? Laborers in the Vineyard: Are you letting selfishness and pride get in the way of the salvation of your neighbor's soul? The Two Sons: The dangers of agnosticism. Are you guilty? You may be astonished at the answer. The Marriage of the King's Son: Why frequent reception of the sacraments is necessary for dwelling at the wedding feast. The Ten Virgins: There's a difference between watching and being prepared for Christ's return. Are you ready? The Ten Talents: God has given you a special gift. Do you know what it is, and how you should use it? The Two Debtors: How to know if you are going through the motions without Christ's love. The Good Samaritan: Do you know the most overlooked element of this parable? It may surprise you. The Rich Fool: Our capacity for self-deception is limitless. Learn the only way to truly know yourself. The Barren Fig Tree: Time is running out, and we have one last chance to cultivate virtue. Will you bear fruit in time? The Great Supper: There's room for all in the heavenly banquet, but not all will find room. Are you making excuses that lead you into isolation? The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin: Do you judge others, or do you receive them as Christ did? Why your approach to lost sheep could cost you your soul. The Prodigal Son: Learn how this famous parable explains why God created mankind and chose to give Himself to us. The Unjust Steward: The world is filled with evildoers. Are you mirroring the light of Christ? The Rich Man and Lazarus: Learn the evils of self-sufficiency, and the dangers of taking gifts for granted. The Unjust Judge: Why you must persevere in prayer despite your continued sins. The Pharisee and the Publican: Why even though you may not commit great sins, your failure to put faith into action could ruin your soul.

Book Information

Paperback: 151 pages

Publisher: Sophia Institute Press (February 17, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1622822323

ISBN-13: 978-1622822324

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.5 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (38 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is what I call a 'deep' book, very informative. In some cases I have never heard the parables explained as Fr. Rutler does. He presents some in a new light and I have to read it twice to make sure I have gotten all the gems in the stories. I am reading this for Lent, but will continue to see the parables in a new way long after Lent is over. Fr. Rutler is a brilliant writer. I sent this book to family and to two priests that are getting new ideas for their sermons! Anyone who wants to better understand the parables of Christ will love this book.

An engaging treatment of the parables. I first saw Fr. Rutler's take on them during his television exposition on EWTN; the show was such that you had to focus all attention and listen to every word - so full of rich insight were the commentaries. The book gives you this in a way that makes it easy to study and derive those hints of heaven contained in Christ's parables.

Fr. Rutler is a gifted writer and preacher. His explanation of the Gospel brings meaning to everyday experiences. He enables all people to live what was taught by Christ. His book is informative and causes the reader to reflect continually upon the parables. Larry Casey

Rutler performs the all but dead art of English. So doing he paints explanations in words worth a thousand pictures. In plain English buy it!!

This is really good stuff! It's not something you can read while dozing off. Bring your 'A' game to this book and give it all your attention while reading it. Fr. Rutler...thank you.

At times acerbic and clearly desiring a return to some of the older ritual, Fr. Rutler delivers a brief but demanding view of Jesus's parables. Not for those weak in vocabulary or the faith a thorough reading demands a return to Catholic teaching at its most basic and profound. Well worth reading.

I liked this little book a lot. Fr. Rutler gives many unexpected insights and some new information about Jesus' favorite way of teaching, his parables. Since these stories have all entered the "common treasury" of Western wisdom, we can easily miss important aspects of them; familiarity can breed insouciance as readily as it can contempt. That said, I have one suggestion for improving Fr. Rutler's book. I would have him refrain from any commentary on modern politics or liturgical conflict. Although I suspect I agree totally with his complaints concerning modern practices in both realms, it's jarring to find Christ's teachings about fundamental human behavior juxtaposed with criticism of today's liturgical silliness. Perhaps some examples from history -- they abound! -- would be more effective, come across as less partisan.

Fr. Rutler takes time to boil down Christ's parables and discern their meaning for our time and for all eras. Fr. Rutler kindly takes one on a journey of faith to understand Christ's intent for all his faithful. A great spiritual and theological guidepost for any wanting to understand Catholic teaching on many areas. I highly recommend this volume. The depth and clarity given by Fr. Rutler are what is most needed in our current age of the Church.

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