

## **UNDERSTANDING PARABLES**

adapted from Robertson McQuilken

A parable is a true-to-life story designed to teach a truth or answer a question.

1. Begin with the immediate context.
  - a. What was the occasion for telling the story?
  - b. Is there an explanation of the meaning?
2. Identify the central point of meaning.
3. Identify details that do not support the central point of meaning.
4. Identify details that support the central point of meaning.
5. Compare parallel and contrasting passages.
6. Base doctrine on clear literal passages.

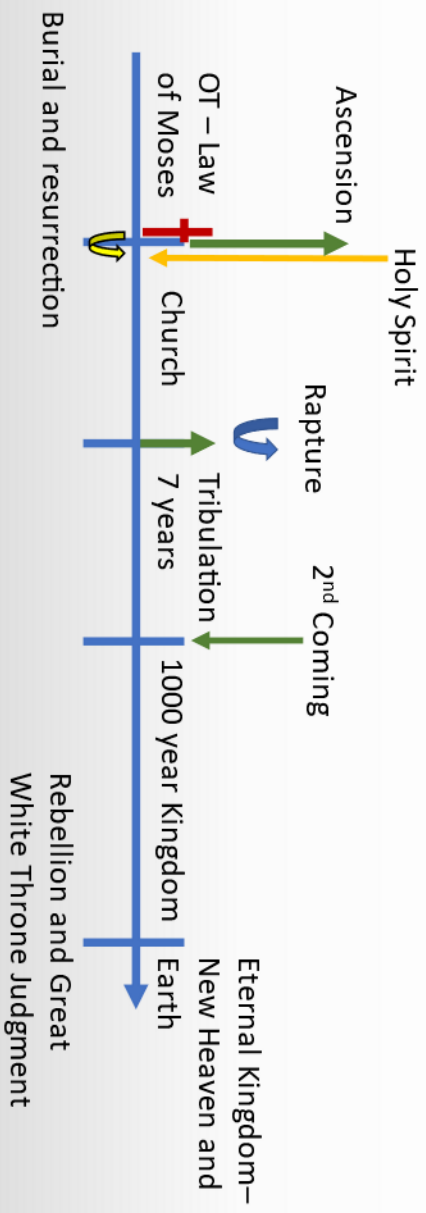
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