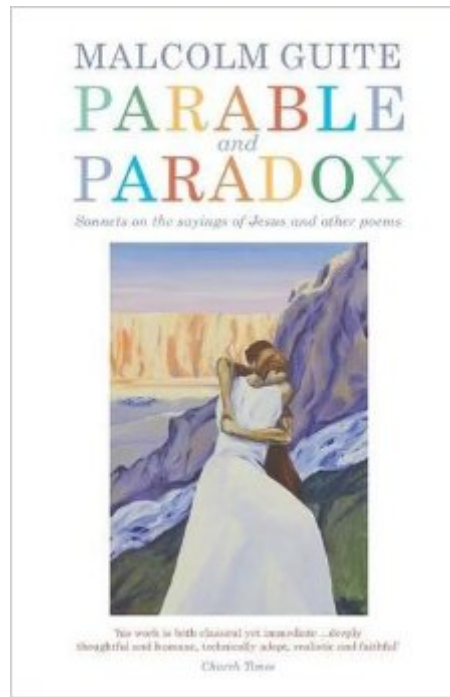


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# Parable And Paradox



## Synopsis

A companion volume to *Sounding the Seasons*, this book of sonnets focuses on many passages in the gospels with the aim of enriching worship and reflection for leaders and congregations alike.

## Book Information

Paperback: 96 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #590,918 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #197 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Literature & Fiction > Poetry](#) #680 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles > Inspirational & Religious](#) #851 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > British & Irish > Poetry](#)

## Customer Reviews

I find it extremely comforting â€” a blessed relief â€” to turn from the viciousness of the commentary about Brexit, the vote by the people of Britain to leave the EU, to poetry based on the sayings of Jesus and related themes. Thatâ€™s what â€œParable and Paradoxâ€ by poet, priest, and musician Malcom Guite is â€” a blessed relief. Perhaps itâ€™s the sonnet form Guite uses, a form thatâ€™s been around since at least the 1200s if not earlier. The sonnet is a 14-line poem that follows a specific rhyming pattern and structure. William Shakespeare used the form to write some of the most beautiful poems in the English language. So did Elizabeth Barrett Browning. The sonnet is a favored form by Guite, and he uses it to reflect upon, ponder, question, celebrate, and commemorate. In this poem, he does all five of these:

Pilgrimage  
Come dip a scallop shell into the font  
For birth and blessings as child of God.  
The living water rises from that fount  
Whence all things come, that you may bathe and wade  
And find the flow, and learn at last to follow  
The course of Love upstream toward your home.  
The day is done and all the fields lie fallow,  
One thing is needful, one voice calls your name.  
Take the true compass now, be compassed round  
By clouds of witness, chords of love unbound.  
Turn to the Son, begin your pilgrimage,  
Take time with him to find your true direction.  
He travels with you through this darkened age  
And wake you every day to resurrection.  
Read it aloud. The act of reading such a poem is itself calming and soothing.

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