

The Growth of The Kingdom

Week 4 - The Covenant, The King, and The Kingdom (5-12-21)

The Parable of the mustard seed. - Matt. 13:31-32

1. Seeds are a lot like yeast, once they are planted they become very hard to hide (Good or Bad).
2. Seeds have only one purpose, to bring increase.
 1. Are the seeds we are sowing, growing or are they they withering on the vine?
John 15:1-8
3. Sometimes we prepare the soil and plant the seed but fail to water it with prayer regularly.
4. If we prepare the soil and plant the seed that God has provided, I'm pretty sure He is up to blessing it.
5. We can understand all about agriculture and grow beautiful gardens and orchards, but if we don't understand the spiritual aspect of planting, we will come up short of the mark intended by God.
6. Don't worry about the size of the seed God asks you to sow; He can do great things with small seeds. (Little is much when the Lord is in it.)
7. Seeds have life and provision for the future.
8. Don't eat the seed that God has given you to plant.
9. It is the word, the seed sown by other believers for generations past that still gives us hope of a brighter day.
10. What kind of sower are we?
 1. Do we sow sparingly or bountiful?
 2. Do we sow for self or for others?
 3. Do we sow reluctantly or willingly?
 4. Do we sow out of necessity or out of obedience?
 5. Do we sow out of faith or doubt?
11. Love for God and others should be the motivation factor for sowing the seed of the word.
12. The bottom line is: if truth isn't preached and proclaimed, millions will perish
13. God has chosen the foolish to confound the wise. 1 Corin. 1:18 & 21
14. The same word or seed we plant is the same word that will govern in the millennium and eternity. Isaiah 2:2-3

Parable of the Mustard Seed

I. God likes to show His Great power through little things! (Mustard Seed)

A. Examples:

1. Jesus, comes humbly as a little baby in a stable wrapped in rags. Luke 2:12
2. The Gospel is simple. John 3:16
3. Attaining citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven is simple. Romans 10:17
4. David and Goliath and David being anointed as king. 1 Samuel 16 and 17
5. King Jehoshaphat appoints singers to go ahead of the army in worship of God for His word in protection. 2 Chronicles 20

II. Even though we may feel small, insignificant, powerless, etc God can and will do big things through us if we allow Him to!

A. We are called as citizens of The Kingdom of heaven to be administering the kingdom and manifesting it to the people around us.

1. The great commission - Matt. 28:19-20
2. "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." - Philip. 2:12-13
 - a) "...Work out your own salvation..." means to be bringing out, or manifesting, the work that has already been placed inside of you! And it is God that is giving you the desire and the power to do so!

III. How are we to be growing and manifesting the kingdom of Heaven?

A. Like Jesus did!

1. Through humble obedience
 - a) Jesus came as a humble servant that only did what the Father asked Him to do, and we should do the same.
 - (1) Allow God to do big things through you in simple and maybe even little acts of obedience to what God is asking you to do.
2. A pure heart toward God

IV. The Birds

A. Following the same thought process as the prior parables, the birds are bad. They are seed eaters!

1. The birds are only able to lodge in the branches of the "mustard tree" because it grew bigger than it was suppose too.
 - a) Men are a part of the church and have a tendency to get things wrong at times.
 - b) We like to lean too much on men's wisdom instead of God's at times, and grow too big in the wrong areas.

V. The Leaven

A. placing just a small amount of leaven in the meal will eventually spread throughout all of it if you leave it long enough.