

LEARNING FROM THE PARABLES OF CHRIST

Matthew 11:28-30
Mark 4:1-12 & Matthew 13

Wednesday, October 12, 2011
7 PM - 8:30 PM

“THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER”

Mark 4:1-20

THESIS: The Word of God is compared to seed sown on the ground and what happens to that Seed once it hits the earth.

INTRODUCTION

In verse 11 of Mark 4, Christ says, “unto you it is given to know the *“mystery”* of the kingdom of heaven...” The word “mystery” is applied to something beyond human knowledge. It is something unexplained, unknown, or kept secret. This word “mystery” as used here is the Gk. word, “*musterion*”: *it denotes, not the mysterious (as with the English word), but that which, being outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension, can be made known only by divine revelation, and is made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God, and to those only who are illumined by His Spirit. In the ordinary sense a “mystery” implies knowledge withheld; its Scriptural significance is truth revealed. Hence the terms especially associated with the subject are “made known,” “manifested,” “revealed,” “preached,” “understand,” “dispensation.” This definition may be best illustrated by the following passage: “the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints” (Colossians 1:26). Vines Complete Expository Dictionary of O.T. & N.T. Words, by W. E. Vine*

Remember, the parable is an extended figure of speech in which one thing is likened to another. Moreover, “a parable is a saying or story that seeks to drive home a point the speaker wishes to emphasize by illustrating it from a familiar situation of common life” (Zondervan Encyclopedia of the Bible).

“There are two dangers to be avoided in seeking to interpret the “parables” in Scripture, that of ignoring the important features and that of trying to make all the details mean something” (Vines Complete Expository Dictionary of O.T. & N.T. Words, W. E. Vines).

As this parable of Christ is studied under the Guidance of The Holy Spirit, it is hoped that which was hidden, will be revealed, understood and applied to your Spiritual Lifestyle. The lessons learned should enhance your New Nature in Christ Jesus. The implementation of a Godly Lifestyle should be perpetually pursued. Never give up. Know that “godliness with contentment is great gain” (1 Timothy 6:6). Parables 1) Illustrate Truth; 2) Impart Instruction; and 3) Increase Information.

“A Sower Went Out To Sow Seed”

BODY

In this parable three (3) items are to be examined: the sower; the seed; and the soil. It is imperative for the Word of God (the Gospel) to be communicated, spread, published, broadcast everywhere (Mt. 24:14). Those who communicate the Gospel are required to be faithful in Presenting The Truth of the Revealed Word of God. The Truth of God’s Word cannot be changed by “anyone” (Mt. 5:17-20; Deut. 4:2; 12:32). God formed man from the earth (the ground, Gen. 3:7) and the essence of man receives all that God Gives and Offers to him (Gen. 3:15-17; Phil. 4:19).

I THE SOWER

- A. The Holy Spirit
John 6:44; 12:32**
- B. The Preacher
Mk. 16:15; Mt. 10:7; 11:7; Rom. 10:14-16**
- C. The Witness
Lk. 24:44-48; Acts 1:8**

II THE SEED

- A. The Word
John 1:1-5, 9-14**
- B. The Truth
John 8:31-32; 17:17**
- C. The Gospel
Mk. 1:15; Lk. 4:18; Rom. 1:15; 2 Cor. 11:7**

III The Soil

- A. The Wayside Soil
v. 4 & v. 15**
- B. The Stony Ground Soil
v. 5 & v. 16-17**

- C. **The Soil of Thorns**
v. 7 & v. 18-19

-3-

- D. **The Good Ground Soil**
v. 8 & v. 20

The Seed which falls on Good Ground produces fruit.

1. **Some 30 fold**
2. **Some 60 fold**
3. **Some 100 fold**

List some of the interesting points of this parable?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

- O **The Synagogue & The Sea Side (Mark 3:1 & Mark 4:1)**
Method of Teaching
Message of Teaching
- O **Harken, Gk. "akouo" - signifies to answer a knock at a door; obey.**
Behold, Gk. "blepo" - to take heed.
Pay Attention
Earnestly Look
See, Perceive
- O **Hear**

“diakouo” (Gk), to hear through; hear fully.
“eisakouo” (Gk), to listen to; hear with favor.
“epakroaomai” (Gk), to listen attentively to.

Parables
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PLDB