Jesus' Parable of The Growing Seed v2

God brings about the mysterious growth of His powerful word in the good and honest heart to produce fruit for His harvest

Introduction

- A parable is an earthly story designed to teach a spiritual lesson through a comparison
- Many parables focused on the nature of the kingdom of God, its King and its citizens
- Today, Jesus' church is the visible manifestation of His kingdom
- The parable of the growing seed is only found in Mark

Introduction

- The parable teaches the gradual mysterious growth of the powerful seed, God's Word, in the good and honest heart
- Therefore instead of trusting in trendy gimmicks to convert the lost and edify the church, we hope and trust in the powerful gospel to do its work

Background To The Parable of The Growing Seed

- He taught it on the day when He began to teach in parables to separate the eager hearers from the hardened hearts
- He began by speaking His parable of the sower which was a pattern for all parables
- It teaches about the four types of hearts that respond to God's Word
- Only the good and honest heart will receive and apply the Word to bear much fruit in His kingdom

Background to the parable of the growing seed

Mar 4:14 "The sower sows the word.

Mar 4:15 "These are the ones who are beside the road where the word is sown; and when they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which has been sown in them.

Mar 4:16 "In a similar way these are the ones on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy;

Background to the parable of the growing seed

Mar 4:17 and they have no firm root in themselves, but are only temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away.

Mar 4:18 "And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word,

Background to the parable of the growing seed

Mar 4:19 but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Mar 4:20 "And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."

The parable of the growing seed

Mar 4:26 And He was saying, "The kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed upon the soil;

Mar 4:27 and he goes to bed at night and gets up by day, and the seed sprouts and grows--how, he himself does not know.

The parable of the growing seed

Mar 4:28 "The soil produces crops by itself; first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head.

Mar 4:29 "But when the crop permits, he immediately puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

Meaning of the parable of the growing seed

- We must continually sow the seed, spread the gospel, wide and far
- In a good and honest heart, the seed, the gospel, will gradually grow and eventually produce its fruit as God intends
- This growth is possible because of the way God has designed His powerful Word, the gospel

When teaching the gospel, we must trust in its power to save and change people

Luk 8:15 "But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.

Act 17:11 Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

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Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

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Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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Act 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

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Col 2:11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

Col 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

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Col 2:13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

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Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

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1Pe 1:22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

1Pe 1:23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

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1Pe 1:24 For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,

1Pe 1:25 BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER." And this is the word which was preached to you.

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1Pe 2:1 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,

1Pe 2:2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

1Pe 2:3 if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

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Eph 3:16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

Eph 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph 3:18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

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Eph 3:19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

Eph 3:21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

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1Co 3:4 For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not mere men?

1Co 3:5 What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one.

1Co 3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth.

When teaching the gospel, we must trust in its power to save and change people

1Co 3:7 So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth.

1Co 3:8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

1Co 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.