

## The Kingdom of God; Not what we were expecting.

remains and re-establishing the King  
Temple worship

Read: Mark 4:13-34

Intro: Tell the story of the Jesus and the parable

- Jesus was teaching the crowds beside the beach in vss. 1-9
  - Jesus explains the parables to His disciples in vss. 20
  - Jesus further expands on their responsibility as Lamps to Shine the message of the Kingdom of God to all that will hear
  - Notice Jesus is speaking to them (disciples) 4:10-11, 13, 21, 24
  - Notice that vs. 26 leaves out the "to them" - he is speaking to the crowds in general
  - Imagine Jesus walking beside the roads & He suddenly stops & raising his voice he begins to preach...
  - **The Kingdom of God is Like...** (freeze frame)
  - There're rabbis, zealots, priests, ordinary people, tradies, etc..
  - Each has a different idea... expectation of what Jesus meant by The Kingdom of God...
- The **Rabbis & Pharisees** idea of the Kingdom
    - It was the Ultimate Spiritual Reality
    - absolute perfection of Law-Keeping
    - If they could keep the Law absolute they would enter into the spiritual li
    - God's Rule over us
    - It's Pharisaic legalism in order to ac
    - and God's Kingdom
  - The Jewish ideas of the Kingdom would
    - David as the Ultimate King/Renaissa
      - Musician, Poet and Warrior
    - David as the youth armed with 5 sto
    - defeating the enemy in the Name of Almighty
    - David the Youth handling the great s
    - David the conqueror king defeating
    - David and the 30 Mighty Men - 1Chr
      - (Arthur and Knights of Israe

**One:** What were they expecting?

- The **Zealots** idea of the Kingdom of God
  - Began w/ Judas the Galilean rebelling ag. Rome, 6 AD
  - Cont. w/ Flavius Silva pursuing Eleazar the Zealot to
- What do we think of when we think of King
  - Young girls think of long silk dresses
  - princesses, castles and high towers
  - Young men think of Knights, Swords

*Matthew 28:18, The K-of-G is like the leaven hidden in three pecks of flour until it was all effected...* Jesus Point: • **John 18:37**, Pilate asks him, if he is a King

- The Kingdom is the Unseen Power of God drastically changing the subjects & content of the kingdom
- It's not what they or we were expecting
- **Matt. 13:44**, *The K-of-G is like a treasure hidden in the field* Jesus' is saying the kingdom of God is present
- **Matt. 13:45**, *The K-of-H is like a merchant seeking fine pearls* It's a virtual declaration of His divine nature
  - The inestimably High Value of the person of Christ as the King reigning over His Kingdom...
    - **The Kingdom has subjects - Believers**
  - Becoming a subject of the Kingdom demands paying Jesus Christ purchased our Salvation, Paying a very high cost
    - Jesus Christ has called us to Faith & Repentance
  - **NO!** we are **NOT** the treasure - because that makes Him the Centre
    - **Our entrance into the Kingdom of God is acceptance and submission to the Rule & Christ, over us.**
  - **Luke 14:25-33**, The Cost of being a Disciple
    - It is His Rule and Reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords over each of our individual lives:
      - We are not our own...
      - We have been bought with a price...
      - We belong to Christ - He is our Lord
      - He is Our Master... Do we act like it?
    - By Voluntary Acceptance and Voluntary Submission to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords...
  - It's not at all what they were expecting!
- **Mark 4:26-29**, *The K-of-G is like... the seed that grows, the farmer knows not how...*
  - The comparison of the K-of-God to seeds & sowers & farmers...
  - It's not at all what they were expecting - but so much more and so much better
- Remember this: Jesus Parables each explain one aspect of the Kingdom of God - not every aspect in every parable...

## THESE, THE SOIL OF OUR

- Describes the heart & life of the believer
- 4:28 Notice: How the crop **Grows** is unknown
  - "seed sprouts & grows - How, **he himself does not** The Parable is emphasizing the Power of God Kingdom subject - the believer- to change 1
  - "the soil produces crops by itself..."
- And this is the central and key point of the parable
- It's not the soil that causes the seed to begin to Grow.. The **Harvest** that is coming - look at that s
  - It is something inexplicable to the farmer...
  - It is something, Someone, working to produce **Four**: **How should we respond?**
- It's not the believer that produces spiritual fruit... It's **God** 1) **Faithfully Plant** the Word of God into t
- It's the **Omnipotent Power of God** causes the Seed life Grow
- It's the **Omnipotent Power of God** that Produces the K-of-God The Kingdom of God is established b
- That's Jesus Point of the Parable... the Word of God in Hearts prepared receive it
- Listen, **Pharisees**: The K-of-God cannot be produced through
  - **Mark 4:26**, "...is like a man who cast ground..."
  - Your own Life -
    - Crave Pure Spiritual Milk Word grow...
  - The Life of everybody you meet - Ev
  - Be Faithful wherever you are planting
- Listen, **Zealot**, The K-of-God cannot be produced through military force, might, striving or human effort & struggle
- Listen, **Philosopher**: The K-of-God cannot be produced by human logic, reasoning or understanding
- Listen, The Kingdom of God can only be Produced - Established through the Power of God the Holy Spirit at Work in us
- The work of God through the Holy Spirit
  - To cause us to die to self
  - To change us into the Image of Christ

- **Mark 1:29**, ...the blade, the head, the mature grain
- Our Spiritual Life Began by the Power of the H. Spirit
  - We were regenerated by the Power of the Holy Spirit
  - The seed sprouted
- Our Spiritual Life only continues by the power of the H. Spirit
  - The blade springing up
- Our Spiritual Life will only finish by the Holy Spirit's power
  - The full head of grain
- It is the Power of God working in You that causes the growth
- You cannot receive the Power of God (like the life-giving sap) if you are disconnected from the vine You cannot begin by the Spirit of God's Power and finish in the power of the Flesh - your own struggling, Galatians
- The little sprout doesn't suddenly cut itself off from the root and say "I can take it from here"
- **Be Encouraged: God will finish His Work in You, Phil. 1:6**

Be Encouraged Christian, it is only w  
 ourselves to His Will that we know t  
**Be Encouraged: Freedom in Christ  
 be His Obedient Slaves**

**Never Lose-Sight** of the fact that Harv  
 ○ The Harvest is Coming... To be conti

### 3) **Constantly Submit** yourselves to the Reign of Christ

- The Kingdom of God is the **Reign** of Christ over you and I as individuals
- Obey the Word of God that you are planting within your  
 own heart