

Mark 4

Introduction

Who is Mark?

- Wasn't one of the Twelve but walked alongside Peter who called him son (1 Peter 5:13) and traveled with Paul and Barnabas. Witnessed the early church especially in Jerusalem. Setting is mostly in Rome so the audience most likely are the Roman Christians and Gentiles. Wrote mostly about Jesus' Ministry which is his opening chapter.

Chapter Focus: Mark 4

- Growing in the Kingdom
- The problem with a seed is not whether it will grow but if it is not buried in the right soil it will not produce what it needs to or at all.
- Do I have the right soil that will nourish the seed?
- Relationship between the Sower/Seed/Soil and the Storm

Key definitions, points, things the audience might need to know

- The sower and seed are the same. Sower = Jesus, Seed = The Word of God
- Soil is us
- Parables: were designed to teach about moral or spiritual truths. It is an illustrated story.
- (SIDENOTE) Could the Parables = Lesson and the Storm = Test
- Kingdom of God: The spiritual realm where God reigns also where we receive spiritual blessings and the Will of God fulfilled on the earth.
- Verse 12 is also written in Isaiah 6: 9-10

Thesis

- Good soil produces eternal growth

- Having the right soil produces growth in the kingdom of God
- How you hear the Word determines your growth

Theology and Scriptures

The Parable of the Sower V 1-20:

- Path= Birds ate it up/ Word Sown Satan steals it
- Rocky places= Sprang up too fast and scorched by heat/ No roots so when persecution came the Joy went away
- Thorns= Choked the plants/ When the storms of life came and other desires apart from God the Word got choked out.
- Good soil =Produces crops/ Hear the Word, accept, and grow

The Lamp stand V 21-25:

- In the light nothing is hidden
- The Word of God is the light that discloses concealed places
- V24-25 (I don't understand)

Growing Seed V 26-29

- Become the image of the sower
- Plant the seed
- When it grows, be ready for the harvest

Mustard Seed V30-34

- The size of the seed doesn't determine it's growth
- The beginning of the start in the Kingdom may be small
- But the results are large

Jesus Calms the Storm V35-41

- Storms will always come
- How you hear will determine your next move
- Jesus calms the storm with authority
- Disciples still don't understand even though the secrets of the kingdom were explained

Key Statements

- How do you hear the Word of God
- You don't have to know how, just plant
- Your understanding might be hindering you

Conclusion

How you hear the Word of God determines your growth. Before a farmer can plant he has to till the ground and get it ready. Are you getting your soil ready so that when the Sower comes with the seed it will be planted in good soil producing much crop. When you have fully grown you can be the image of the sower planting the seed. Will you just let the seed fall on hard places and when the storms of life come you aren't ready to speak to it.