

"The Parables # 9"

Matt. 13: 31-32

(Parable of the Mustard Seed)

Matt. 13: 31-32 (Read Text)

Mark 4: 30-32

"Then He said, to what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade."

I see a several things in this parable:

1. The kingdom of God starts small in our lives...
 2. Growth takes time... (A life time)
 3. Patience is very important, with God and yourself... (God is working out things in our lives)
- They that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength!
 - In every season of life, we need to trust in God

Lloyd J Ogilvie:

"Impatience breeds discouragement and births self-incrimination. It's then that we say, If I only had more faith! Things would be different if I had enough faith to face life's excruciating slow process. My faith just isn't big enough! As if everything depended on the size of our faith, we spiral subjectively into misguided musings about our own adequacy."

Luke 17:5 *"The apostles said to the Lord, increase our faith... So, the Lord said, if you have the faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea... it would obey you"*

- When we are tempted to be discouraged, we need to remember...
- It's not the size of our faith.
- But the immensity of God's power that makes the difference.

Trust in God and His power... He will give you the faith for the situation!

- **Faith is a gift from God**
- **Brings salvation, healing of body, soul and spirit, miracles...**

Romans 12: 3 (ESV)... (Read)

(NKJV) *"For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith."*

Eph. 2:8

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; It is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship..."

- Both grace and faith are a gift from God.
- Plus, God gives each of us different gifts to use to encourage others.
- For the edification and perfection of the church.

Romans 12:4-8 (ESV)... (Read)

- I prayed Lord give me an example or illustration.
- How does that mustard seed grow into a tree that provides help, comfort to others? **(Birds of the air nest in its branches)**

The parable says a "Certain man" sowed the mustard seed

Who is that man?... Son of Man, **it's Jesus that sows the seed in us!**

Romans 12:9-21 (ESV)... (Read)

- **God said to me....** This is the fertilizer and water that make the mustard seed grow in you.
- Let love be genuine, Love one another with brotherly affection.
- Outdo one another in showing honor!

When we do these things, our faith, our grace... the mustard seed Jesus planted in us grows into a largest of trees... (Mark 4:30-32)