# The Gospel of Mark Mark 4:1-34 "Seed, Soil, & Light"



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### Mark 4:1-9

"Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said:

'Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed...

READ BY: David Marz



## Mark 4:1-9

As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

READ BY: David Marz



## Mark 4:1-9

Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.' Then Jesus said,

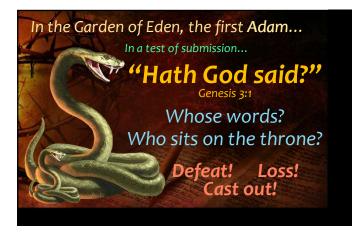
> 'Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.'"

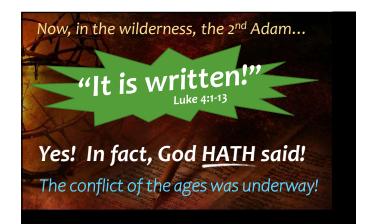
READ BY: David Marz

### Mark 1:14-15

"After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come... the kingdom of God has come near..."

Galatians 4:1-4 - "The fullness of time!"





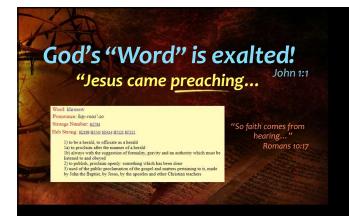
## God's "Word" is exalted!

John 1:1

"After John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God..."

Mark 1:15

compare: "Gospel of Jesus the Messiah" - 1:1





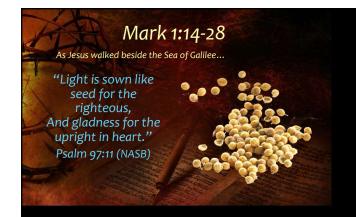


"Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galik of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan -The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned...

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

Isaiah 9:1-6 Matthew 4:13-16 Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali - to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah..."

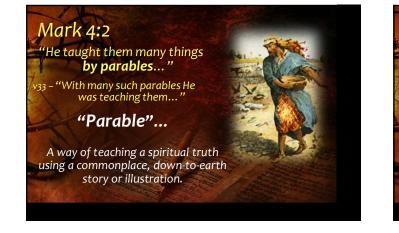












#### Mark 4:2 "He taught them many things by parables"

by parables..."

Jesus' use of parables: to conceal and reveal

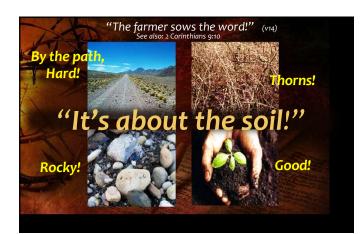
Nearly all of Jesus' parables reveal truths about "the kingdom of God."



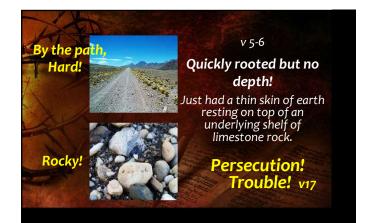
See: Isaiah 6:9-10













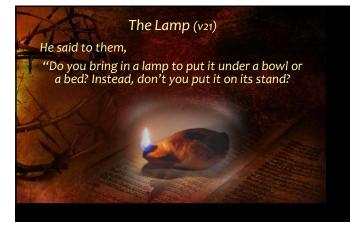




#### The Parable of the Mustard Seed (v30-32)

Again he said,

"What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."



### Mark 4:11

"The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you..."

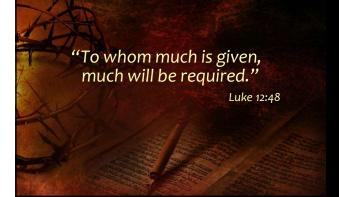
Psalm 25:14

"The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, and He will reveal to them His covenant."



"Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:16



God provides the seed...

We are called to sow!

He takes care of the "germination ... "

### Mark 4:26-29

He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.

#### All by itself

the soil produces grain — first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

God provides the seed...

We are called to sow!

He takes care of the "germination..."

Small! ... but invested with life! It will grow to cover the whole earth!

## Hebrews 4:12-13

"For the word of God is alive and active...

Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account..."

## 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

"Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things — and the things that are not — to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him."

