

Bible Study

Parables of Jesus

Mark 4:1-41

Mark 4: 1-41

Parables of Jesus

Objectives:

- To define and understand a parable.
 - To understand the purpose of parables.
 - To understand the miracle of Jesus stilling the storm
-

In Mark 5 Jesus introduces a new teaching technique known as parables. A parable is a story or a figure placed alongside a biblical truth to aid our understanding. A parable is more than an earthly story with a heavenly meaning, because parables requires the listener to make a personal decision about God's truth and his/her life. Jesus taught four (4) parables in Mark 4.

1. The parable of the Soils/Sower. (4:1-20)
2. The parable of the Lamp. (4:21-25)
3. The parable of the Growing Seed. (4:26-29)
4. The parable of the Mustard Seed. (4:30-34)

The Parable of the Soils 4:1-20

- A. Define a parable.
- B. What do the sower and the seed represent? V. 3 & 14
- C. What do the seeds that fell by the wayside represent? V. 4, 15
- D. What do the seeds that fell on stony ground represent? V. 5-6, 16-17
- E. What do the seeds that fell among thorns represent? V7, 18-19
- F. What do the seeds that fell on good ground represent? V. 8, 20
- G. The four soils represent the conditions of the human heart: Hard V4, Shallow V5, Crowded V7, and Fruitful V8. Can you explain?
- H. Why did the hard, shallow, and crowded soils fail to produce? What were the enemies to their growth?
- I. What made the good soil productive?
- J. What kingdom truth is revealed by the parable of the soils? Vvs. 13-20

The Parable of the Lamp 4:21-25

- K. What does the lamp (candle) represent? V21-22
- L. How do we become good stewards of discerning God's word, and what are the benefits or detriments? V24-25.

Bible Study

Parables of Jesus

Mark 4:1-41

Two (2) Parables about Seeds. 4:26-34

- M. What is the kingdom of God compared to in verse 26?
- N. Why mystery is being addressed in verse 27?
- O. Explain the three (3) stages of growth, compare it to spiritual growth. V28.
- P. What happens to mature fruit, and why? V29
- Q. What is the kingdom of God compared to in verses 30-31?
- R. What caused the mustard seed to become the greater than other branches? Vs.31-32.

Jesus' Sixth (6th) miracle in Mark. 35-41

- S. Describe the miracle.
- T. What is the message of the miracle? V40.
- U. What are some lessons that you take away from Mark 4?