

## *Who Do You Say I Am? – Mark 4:21-41*

Terry Townsend

After the parable of the sower and the seed the remainder of Chapter 4 is three (related) parables

A parable is an (earthly) story with a (heavenly) meaning

There is (one main thought) in each parable. Not every (detail) has (spiritual) significance

A parable is not designed to make truth (simple) but to challenge the reader to (go deeper)

Mark 4:10-11

10 When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables.

11 He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables

Mark 4:1

1 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.

Parable #1, a Lamp on a Stand

Read Mark 4:21-25

Main thought: (Truth is manifest), *clear or obvious to the eye or mind*

God has chosen to (lift the veil) on the (mystery) of (redemption) through His Son so that all might see and be (saved)

The lamp is the center of the Galilean home, illuminating (every corner) only when it is placed on the lampstand that occupies the central place

Pastor Dale: *Truth has a name, and his name is Jesus*

*some is (more) and little is (none)*

Law of (Entropy), Second Law of Thermodynamics: systems in the physical world break down over time

Law of (Syntropy): spiritual resources expand with use and are lost with disuse

Parable #2, the Growing Seed

Read Mark 4:26-29

Main thought: (Growth is mysterious)

Truth grows beyond man's (knowledge), 27

Truth grows beyond man's (control), 28

Parable #3, the Mustard Seed

Read Mark 4:30-34

Main thought: (Results are multiplied)

The kingdom of God begins small in (significance) and grows great in (service)

In this case, the birds are all of the nations of the world, including Gentiles and (every lost person)

Matthew 28:18-20

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."