

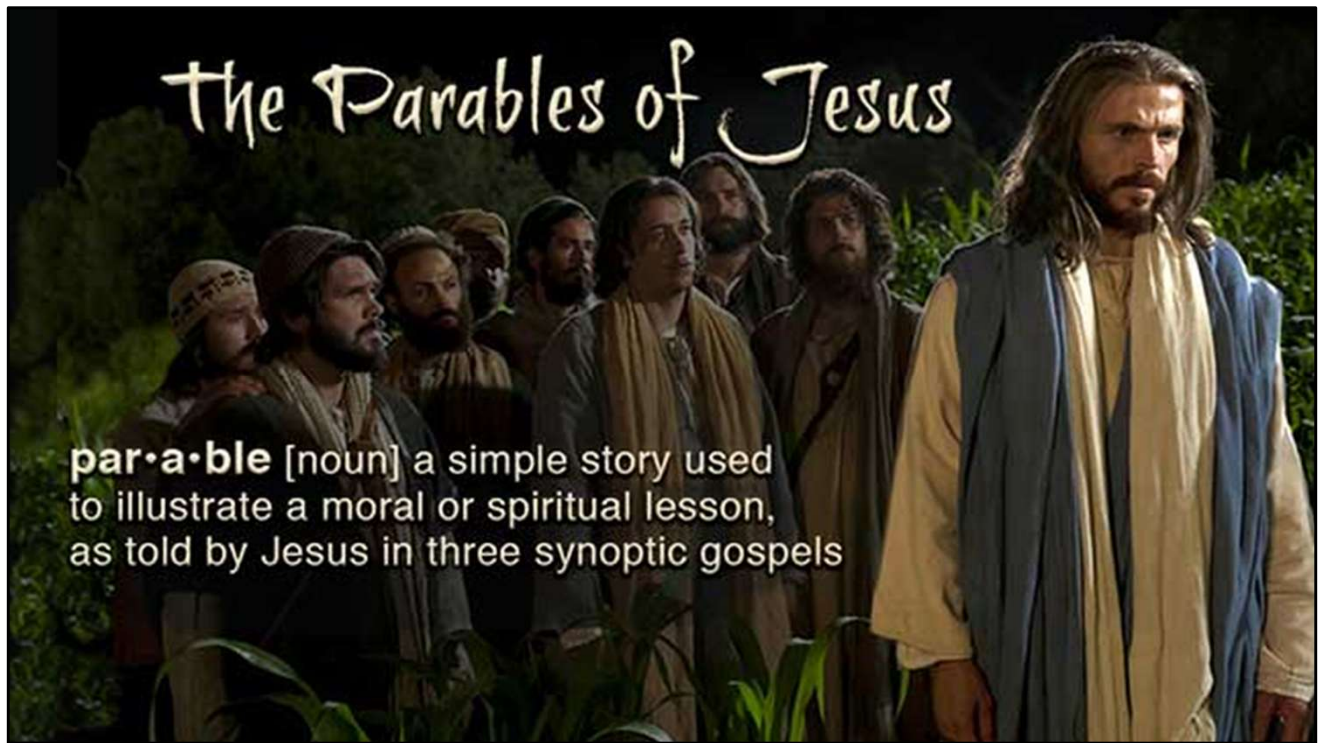




The Secret of the Kingdom

Mark 4:1-20, 26-34

3 “Seed” Stories



par·a·ble [noun] a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in three synoptic gospels

Synoptic - "seen together" or "read side-by-side" – 3 gospels are very similar, Mat. Mk. Lk., John is very different

Parables were used because Many, incl religious leaders were hypercritical, just looking for faults. This shielded truth from them, to some degree but the HS used them to open the eyes of those being saved

- They made you think, ask questions
- They were relatable to their culture and helped give understanding from theory to practical, words to pictures/visuals, rich Imagery
- People prefer stories, Narratives to Laws and Didactic
- Earthly stories with Heavenly meanings
- Our problem is we are SO blessed, most of us have lost touch with agrarian principles in America, most of the world still knows

Teaching them many things in parables

- Again, he began to teach
- “Listen! Behold”, Attention grabbing
- Why parables – to reveal and conceal
- Near 40-50 parables of Jesus!
- Don’t overanalyze them, usually a simple main lesson



Be careful, Don’t Mix Metaphors!

Para ballo =

The Greek for “parable” — *parabolé* — literally means to compare things by throwing or placing things along side each other. The technical definition of a parable is that it’s an extended simile. The comparison is expressed clearly in “*the kingdom of heaven is like . . .*” which is a story or prolonged comparison, **not a simple simile**. The Hebrew word for it, *masal* [*mah-shal*]), **means “to be like.”**

MacArthur: A Parable is an ingeniously simple word picture illuminating a profound spiritual lesson, 40+ to 50 Parables in NT

One main point

Mystery in OT, now revealed

Jesus tells us that there are two reasons he uses parables when he teaches: **to reveal and conceal.**

“The Parable of the Sower, the Seed, and the Soil.”

multilevel agriculture parable of seed and soil. Subsistence farmers

[Neh 8:2 ESV] 2 So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month.

[Neh 8:8 ESV] 8 They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

[Mal 2:7 ESV] 7 For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

[Luk 24:27, 32, 45 ESV] 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. ... 32 They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ... 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

[Act 17:2-3 ESV] 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ."

[Act 28:23 ESV] 23 When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets.



Path



Stoney Ground



Thorny Ground



Good Soil

Are you hard hearted?

Remember last week!??

[2Co 4:3-7 ESV] 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5 For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

[Eze 36:26 ESV] 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

[Eze 11:19 ESV] 19 And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh,

[Psa 51:10 ESV] 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

[2Co 5:17 ESV] 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. **The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**

[Pro 20:9 ESV] 9 **Who can say, "I have made my heart pure; I am clean from my sin"?**

[Eze 36:26 ESV] 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

[Eph 4:22, 24 ESV] 22 to **put off your old self**, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ... 24 and to **put on the new self**, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

[Col 3:10 ESV] 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Sow what?!

- The Sower (Farmer) is the Lord Jesus! Even us.
- The Seed is the word of God! Buried and Bursting forth!



The Sower, the Seed and the Soil

Rocky ground – Mushroom growth, quick but short lived growth. *Persecution and tribulation. Mans life under the Sun!*

Rototiller – You must be broken to come to Christ!

Hot Sun beating down mushrooms and other short-lived growth. Desert! Climate!

Weeds! Sucking away the life and choking out the good seed

[Psa 51:17 ESV] 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

[Psa 34:18 ESV] 18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

[Psa 147:3 ESV] 3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

[2Ki 22:19 ESV] 19 because your heart was penitent, and you humbled yourself before the LORD, when you heard how I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and you have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you, declares the LORD.

[Isa 57:15 ESV] 15 For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

[Isa 61:1 ESV] 1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

Isa 66:2 All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the LORD. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

[Psa 51:10 ESV] 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

[2Co 5:17 ESV] 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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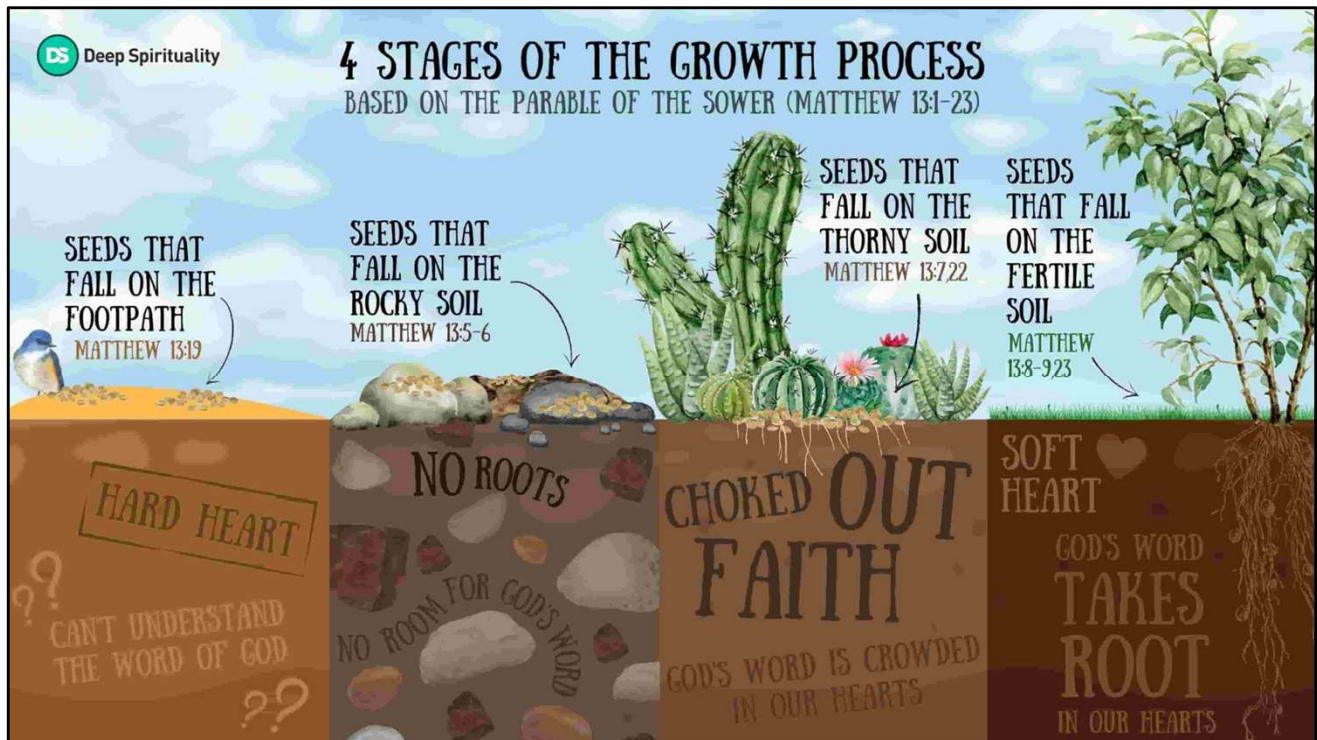
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Sow what?!

- The Soil is the human heart/mind/soul
 - Trampled (hard) path – Satan takes away the word, unbroken
 - Rocky ground – shallow, No depth, Sun melts away
 - Thorny ground – cares and riches and lust. Weeds!
 - Good soil! – Isaiah 5





Mt.13:1-23

Thorny ground – Cactus!

Mk.4:13-20 they ALL Heard! But Only the 4th Heard and reproduced!

Stomped Hearts, Satan takes away BY “look Squirrel!”

Sun/Suffering: when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word

Strangled by: but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

We Don’t Need a Scarecrow! We Need Jesus, a Shepherd! a Cross!

The Seed is Special!

- Isaiah 55:11 – so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
- 1 Peter 1:23 – since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God

The Seed was the same in each Soil! But was only productive (long term) in the right soil!

The Enemy fears the Word!, he try's to take it away.

The Word of God = is Gods Breath! Adam and the 2nd Adam! 2Tim.3:16-17

**Jesus is the Word! The written word is the lingering voice of the Living Word!
Seeds, are miraculous, They are technically dead and come to life when planted!
[1Co 15:36 ESV] 36 You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.” (Dormant?)**

Farmers aim the seed to best soil, some falls elsewhere, Generous distribution

Back then a yield of 10 to 1 was considered a fine crop. The Mystery of the productiveness of the Produce!

[Ecc 11:4, 6 ESV] 4 He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap. ... 6 In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

Different measures of results but all reaped More! [Mat 25:15 ESV] 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

Grassmick, J. D. (1985). . In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 118). Victor Books.

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The oldest seed found in Israel to germinate is a 2,000-year-old Judean date palm seed, discovered during excavations at the ancient fortress of Masada. It was planted in 2005 and is nicknamed "Methuselah" after the biblical figure, making it the oldest viable seed ever successfully grown

Jack and the Beanstalk - trade the cow for five beans. "Fee-fi-fo-fum, I smell the blood of an Englishman. Though Jack and his mother now have an inexhaustible source of golden eggs, Jack is "not content" and climbs the beanstalk for the third time.

[Luk 8:11 ESV] 11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

[Jhn 6:63 ESV] 63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

[Rom 10:17 ESV] 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

[1Co 1:18 ESV] 18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

[1Co 3:6-9 ESV] 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8 He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. 9 For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

[1Th 2:13 ESV] 13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when

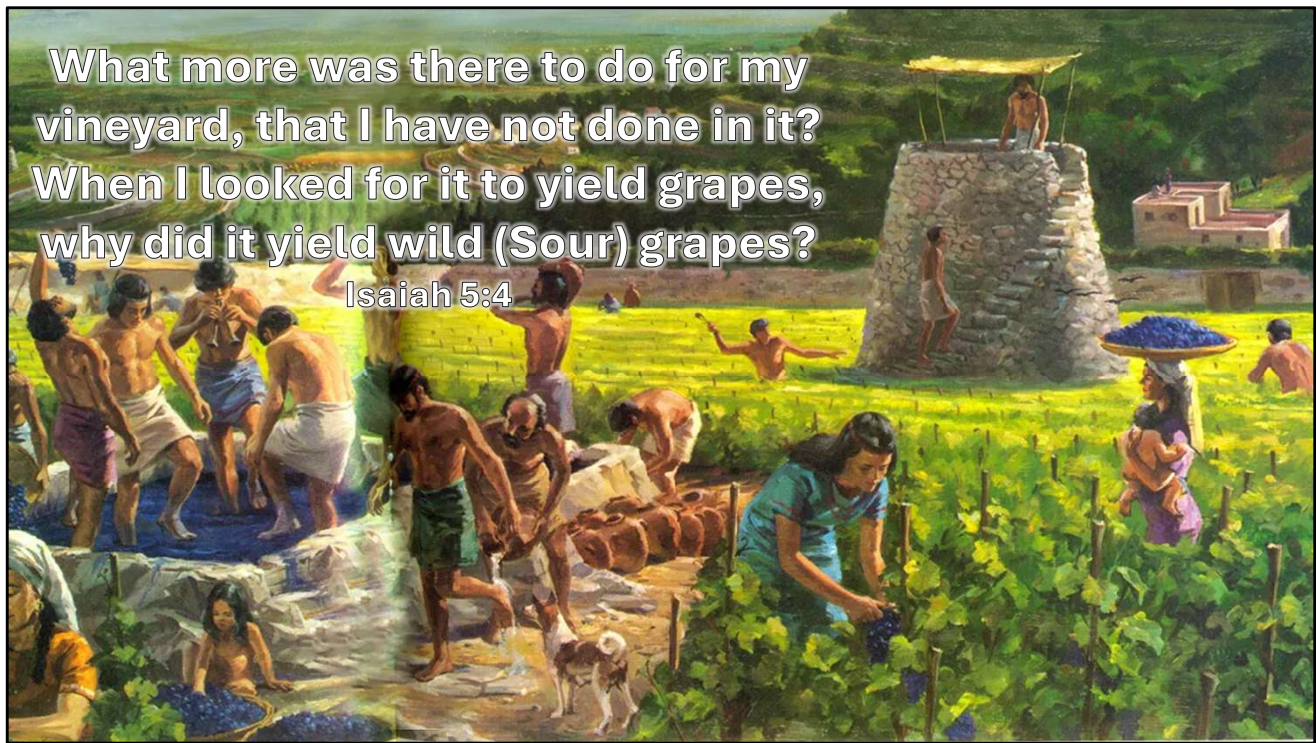
you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

[Jas 1:18 ESV] 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

[1Pe 1:23 ESV] 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

[2Ti 3:15-17 ESV] 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

[2Ti 2:9, 15 ESV] 9 for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ... 15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.



What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild (Sour) grapes?

Isaiah 5:4

Don't mix metaphors!

God sings the Blues! A Love Song! The problem in Isa. 5 was not the seed or the soil! Jesus was the Seed/A Choice Vine


Sour Grapes!

Isa 5:1-7 Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: **My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.** 2 He **dug it and cleared it of stones,** and **planted it with choice vines;** he built a **watchtower** in the midst of it, and hewed out **a wine vat** in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, **but it yielded wild grapes.** 3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. 4 **What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?** 5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will **remove its hedge,** and it shall be devoured; **I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.** 6 I will make it a waste; **it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.** 7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

[Heb 6:7-9 ESV] 7 For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. 8 But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned. 9 Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things--things that belong to salvation.

See the Watchtower, The wall, The Winepress, The Reaping

God gives and gives and expects results!

- He gave us His Son! Crucified and Resurrected!
 - We have the Power of His Word! Potency!
 - He give us New Hearts by the Holy Spirit!
 - He blesses us with a gift of Faith!
 - He rains on the just and the unjust!
 - Love is far more than words! Otherwise, your Dead!
- 

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[Mat 3:10 ESV] **10 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.**

[Mat 7:17-19 ESV] **17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit**, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

[Mat 12:33 ESV] **33 "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit.**

[Mat 21:19 ESV] **19 And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once.**

[Eph 2:8-10 ESV] **8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared**

beforehand, that we should walk in them.



Anybody want a 2000 yr old Date?

Thinking of Parables - Some modern day people want to argue the literalness of whether seeds are Dead or dormant?

<https://arava.org/arava-research-centers/arava-center-for-sustainable-agriculture/methuselah/6-new-ancient-date-trees/>

***Hannah* was sprouted from a 2,000 year-old seed, and pollinated by another Ancient Judean date tree.** Dr. Elaine Solowey, director of the Center for Sustainable Agriculture of the Arava Institute, and Dr. Sarah Sallon, director of the Louis L. Borick Natural Medicine Research Center of Hadassah Hospital, harvested these ancient dates in the culmination of an ambitious, decades-long experiment to raise the biblical-era *Phoenix dactylifera* – date palm – from the dead.

The oldest seed found in Israel to germinate is a 2,000-year-old Judean date palm seed, discovered during excavations at the ancient fortress of Masada. It was planted in 2005 and is nicknamed "Methuselah" after the biblical figure, making it the oldest viable seed ever successfully grown.

Was it Dead or just Dormant? 2000 yrs old!

“The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed” – Mark 4:26-29

- He sleeps and rises night and day,
- The seed sprouts and grows; he know not how.
- The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.
- He puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come

Ecc 3:1, 11 ESV] 1 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ... 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

Farmers are dependent on God!!!! When Planting, when growing, When Storms and Pestilence comes and When Harvesting and the measure!

It takes Patience and Time, Life begins in the soil but fruit takes time!

Weeds grow Easy and everywhere, Crops require intentionality, protection, Weeding...Miracle Grow!!!!

[Ecc 11:1-6 ESV] 1 Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. 2 Give a portion to seven, or even to eight, for you know not what disaster may happen on earth. 3 If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves on the earth, and if a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie. 4 He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap. 5 As you do not know the way the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything. 6 In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will

prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

[Psa 126:6 ESV] 6 He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

[Deu 30:3 ESV] 3 then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you.

[Psa 44:11 ESV] 11 You have made us like sheep for slaughter and have scattered us among the nations.

Diaspora – Scattered

[1Pe 1:1 ESV] 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

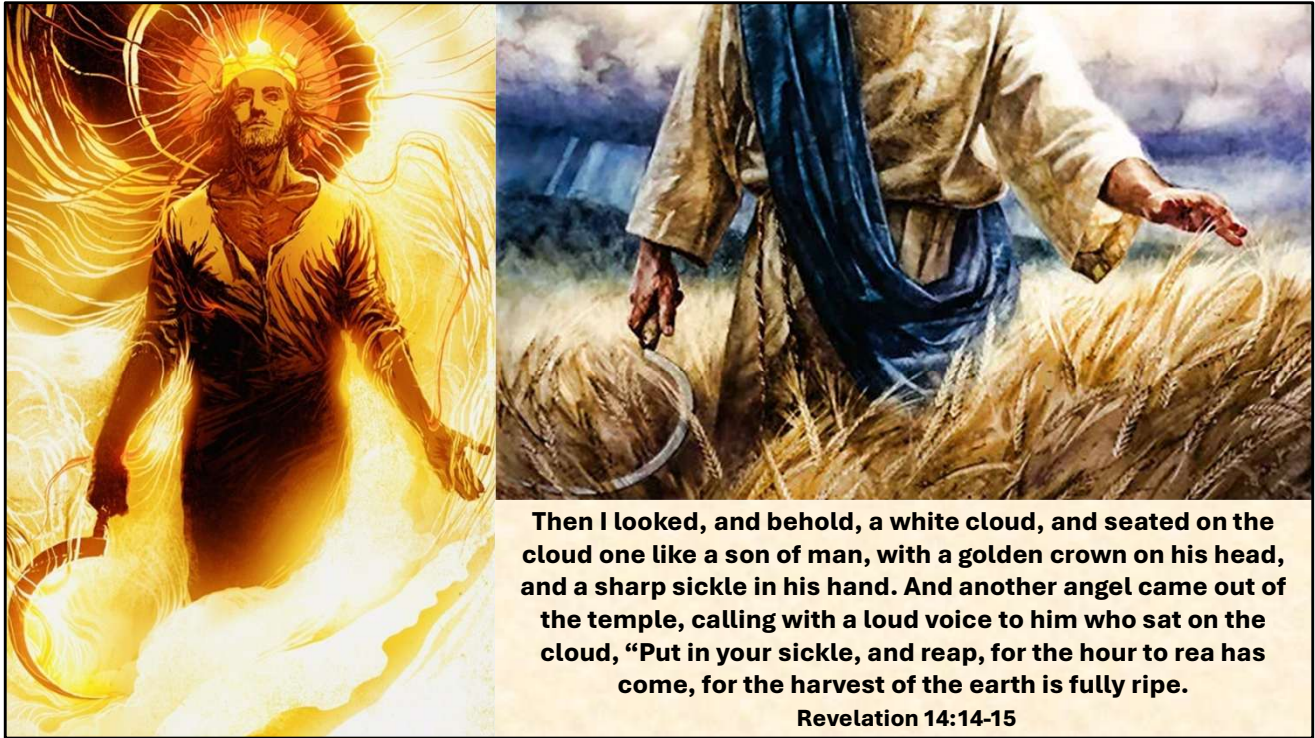
In phase two the sower appears but is not active. After planting **the seed**, he leaves it and goes about his duties **night and day without anxious thought for the seed**. Meanwhile it germinates, sprouts, and grows in a way he did not know and cannot explain.

The soil (lit., “the earth”) produces grain which develops to maturity in successive stages. The soil does this all by itself (*automatē*; cf. the Eng. “automatic”). *This key Greek word (emphatic by position) could be translated “without visible cause” implying “without human agency,” and thus refers to work done by God (cf. similar situations in Josh. 6:5; Job 24:24; Acts 12:10). God works in the life-bearing seed which, when planted in good soil, grows stage by stage and produces grain without human intervention.*

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Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand. And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe.

Revelation 14:14-15

Rev 14:14-15 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand.
15 And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe."

It is like a grain of mustard seed 30-34

- When sown...is the smallest of all the seeds on earth,
- Yet when...it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants (herbs, seasoning)
- So that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.
- Galatians 6:7 – Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

This time the parable of the birds, Birds aren't doing something Bad!, But enjoying good!

[Mar 4:30-34 ESV] 30 And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? 31 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, 32 yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." 33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. 34 He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

[Gal 6:7-10 ESV] 7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Also a picture of Forgiveness! Lk.17

Probably they represent the incorporation of the Gentiles into God's kingdom program (cf.

Ezek. 17:22–24; 31:6). What God had promised to do (Ezek. 17), He began to do in Jesus' mission. (The kingdom, however, is not to be identified with the church; cf. comments on Mark 1:15.)

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Remember Nebuchadnezzar tree where the world came and found rest

In Jewish thinking, its small size was proverbial since it was the smallest of all the seeds sown in the field. It took 725-760 mustard seeds to weigh a gram (28 grams equal one ounce). The mustard shrub is an annual plant which, growing from seed, becomes the largest of all garden plants (ta lachana, “large, fast-growing annual shrubs”) in Palestine, reaching a height of 10–12 feet in a few weeks. Birds of the air (undomesticated fowl) are attracted by its seed and the shade of its large branches (cf. *tdnt*, s.v. “sinapi,” 7:287–91).

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The Mustard seed! Small becomes Huge!

[**Mat 13:31-33** ESV] 31 He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." 33 He told them another parable. **"The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened."**

[**Mat 16:6, 11-12** ESV] 6 Jesus said to them, "Watch and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ... 11 How is it that you fail to understand that I did not speak about bread? Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." 12 Then they understood that he did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

[**1Co 5:6-8** ESV] 6 Your **boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?** 7 Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. 8 Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the

unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

[Gal 5:9 ESV] 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

The Secret of the Kingdom!

- 1st parable – God is reseeding a new Eden! Planting
- 2nd parable focuses on patience and Harvest! Results!
- 3rd parable salivates the tongue, Flavorful! Bless Others!
- God is doing a work! It requires burying & bursting forth!
- When God does a Work – It results in Very Good!

the “secret” (mystērion)

Eph 1:9-11 ESV] 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him. 11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

[Rom 16:25-26 ESV] 25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith--

Jesus Coming Was ALWAYS the Plan!!

The basic “secret,” common to all the kingdom parables, is that in Jesus, God’s rule (kingdom) has come into human experience in a new spiritual form. The disciples had believed in Jesus. God had already given (dedotai, perf. pass.) them this “secret,” though so far they understood little of its full impact.

Grassmick, J. D. (1985). Mark. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), The Bible

**Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures (Vol. 2, p. 119).
Victor Books.**

**Imagine the Earth/Eden before the rebellion! Everything was Good!
Very Good!**

**Then 1 sin brought sin – Sweat, thorns, pain suffering and death! Jesus
wore a Crown of Thorns!**

**Now Jesus , the 2nd Adam comes back to Earth/and the god of this world
- Satan, overgrown with Weeds, poison Ivy, fungus, death and starts
planting His seed!!**

**Its going to happen immediately but also it will take time to reclaim the
earth! He will give new hearts/Soil, Water (Ps.1!!) Sun (Ja.1) and rebirth!**

[Mar 4:10-11, 26, 30 And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve
asked him about the parables. 11 And he said to them, "To you has been given
the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in
parables, ...

26 And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the
ground. ...

30 And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what
parable shall we use for it?

Parable of Soils

Parable of the seed growing, time and mystery and the sickle/Harvest

Parable of the Mustard seed!

Good 7x, 7th Very Good! Sin = BAD! Very BAD!

[Gen 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31 ESV] 4 And God saw that the light was good.
And God separated the light from the darkness. ... 10 God called the dry land
Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw


that it was good. ... 12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees **bearing fruit in which is their seed**, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ... 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the **light from the darkness**. And God saw that it was good. ... 21 So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, **according to their kinds**, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ... 25 And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ... 31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.



[1Co 11:28 ESV] 28 Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

[2Co 13:5 ESV] 5 **Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!**

Reap, Reap, Reap!

- We need to guard our hearts; broken & open hearts
 - We need 'Miracle Grow', patience and inspect results!
 - Do we enhance flavor? Are others blessed
 - Let's sow the Seed/Word! Share the gospel!!
 - Deeper the root, sweeter the fruit!
 - His Kingdom come, Will be done!
- 

Everyone will reap, either good or bad – personal reward or consequence. Gal.6:7 whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Reap the sowing of the gospel! Psa 126:6 He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

Ja.5:1, 4-5, 7-8, 17-20

Jesus WILL Reap! Rev.11:15

[Jas 5:7-8 ESV] 7 Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. 8 You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

[Jhn 4:36-38 ESV] 36 Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. 37 For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

[2Ki 19:30 ESV] 30 And the surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward.

[Isa 27:6 ESV] 6 In days to come Jacob shall take root, Israel shall blossom and put forth shoots and fill the whole world with fruit.

[Isa 37:31 ESV] 31 And the surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward.

[Jer 12:2 ESV] 2 You plant them, and they take root; they grow and produce fruit; you are near in their mouth and far from their heart.

[Hos 9:16 ESV] 16 Ephraim is stricken; their root is dried up; they shall bear no fruit. Even though they give birth, I will put their beloved children to death.

[Mat 3:10 ESV] 10 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

[Rev 1:6, 9 ESV] 6 and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ... 9 I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

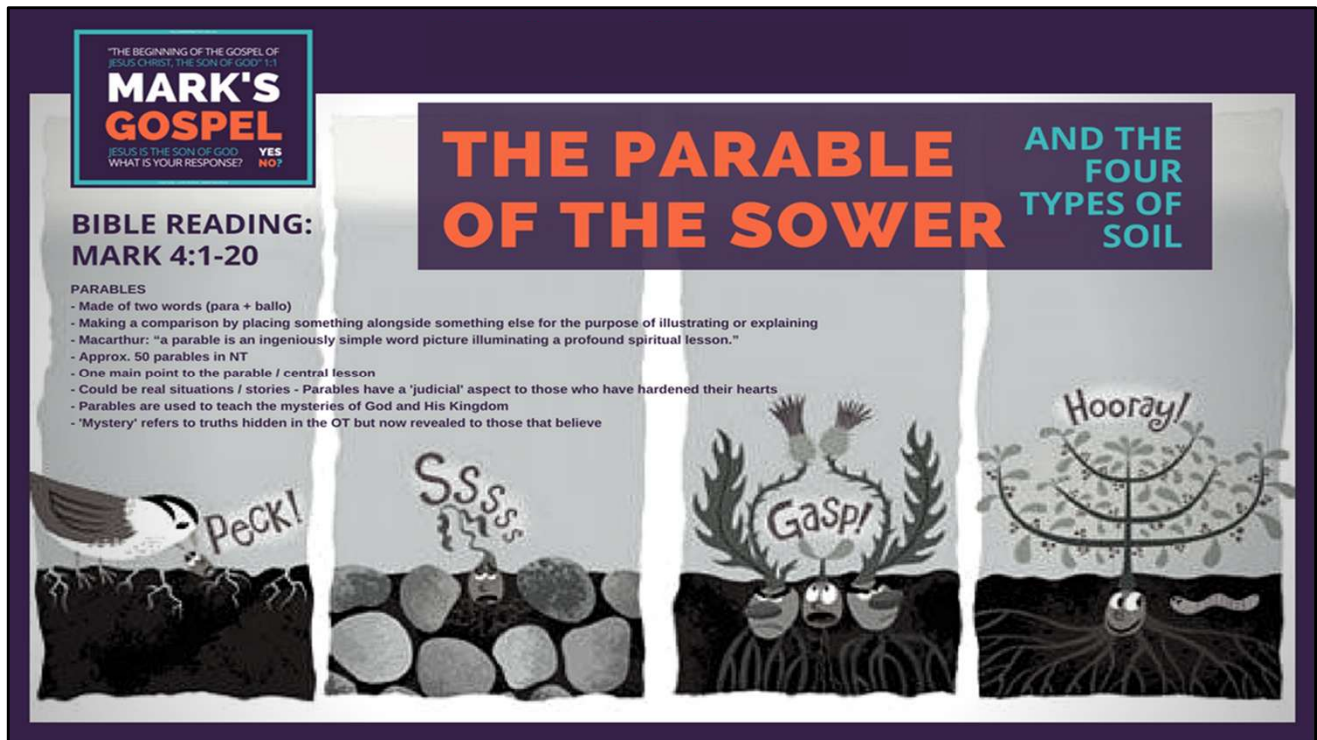
[Rev 5:10 ESV] 10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

[Rev 11:15 ESV] 15 Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

[Rev 12:10 ESV] 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

[Rev 16:10 ESV] 10 The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues in anguish





Para ballo =

The Greek for “parable” — *parabolé* — literally means to compare things by throwing or placing things along side each other. The technical definition of a parable is that it’s an extended simile. The comparison is expressed clearly in “*the kingdom of heaven is like . . .*” which is a story or prolonged comparison, not a simple simile. The Hebrew word for it, *masal* [*mah-shal*]), means “to be like.”

MacArthur: A Parable is an ingeniously simple word picture illuminating a profound spiritual lesson, 40+ to 50 Parables in NT

One main point

Mystery in OT, now revealed

Jesus tells us that there are two reasons he uses parables when he teaches: **to reveal and conceal.**

“The Parable of the Sower, the Seed, and the Soil.”

multilevel agriculture parable of seed and soil. Subsistence farmers

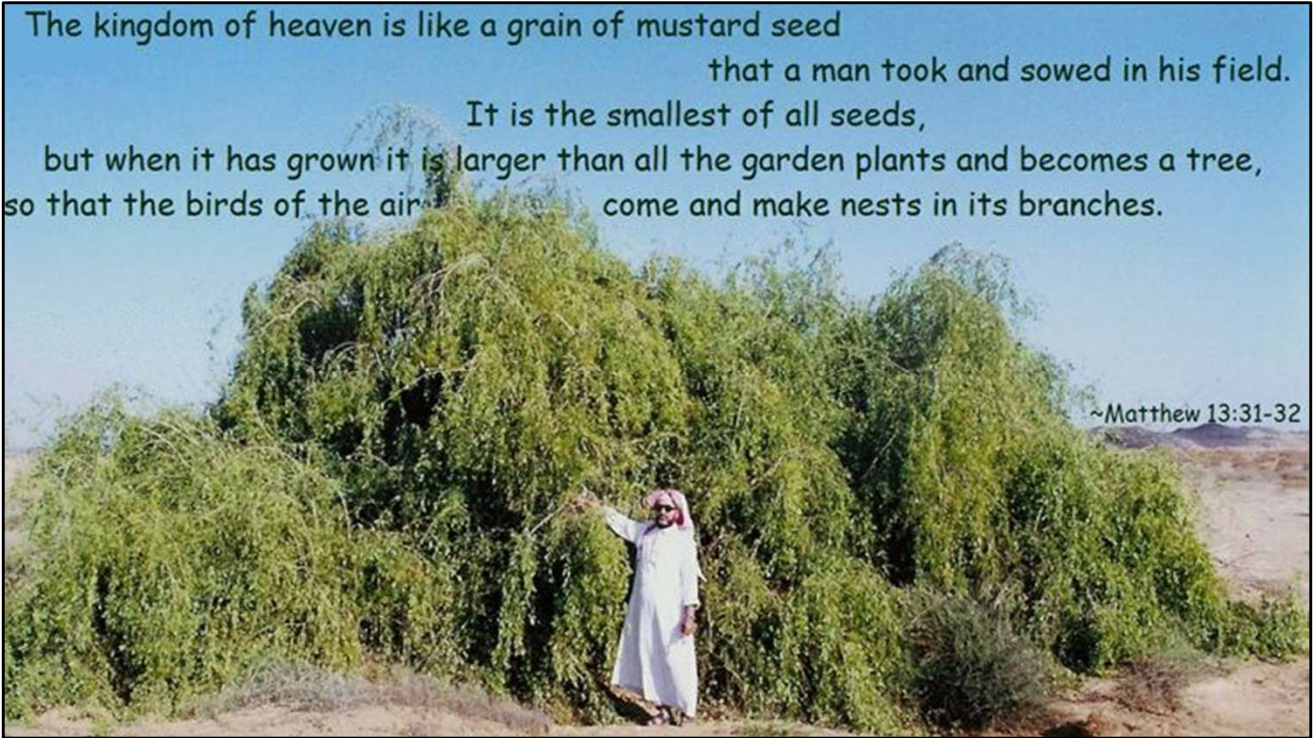
The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed

that a man took and sowed in his field.

It is the smallest of all seeds,

but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree,
so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

~Matthew 13:31-32



Matthew 13:1-23

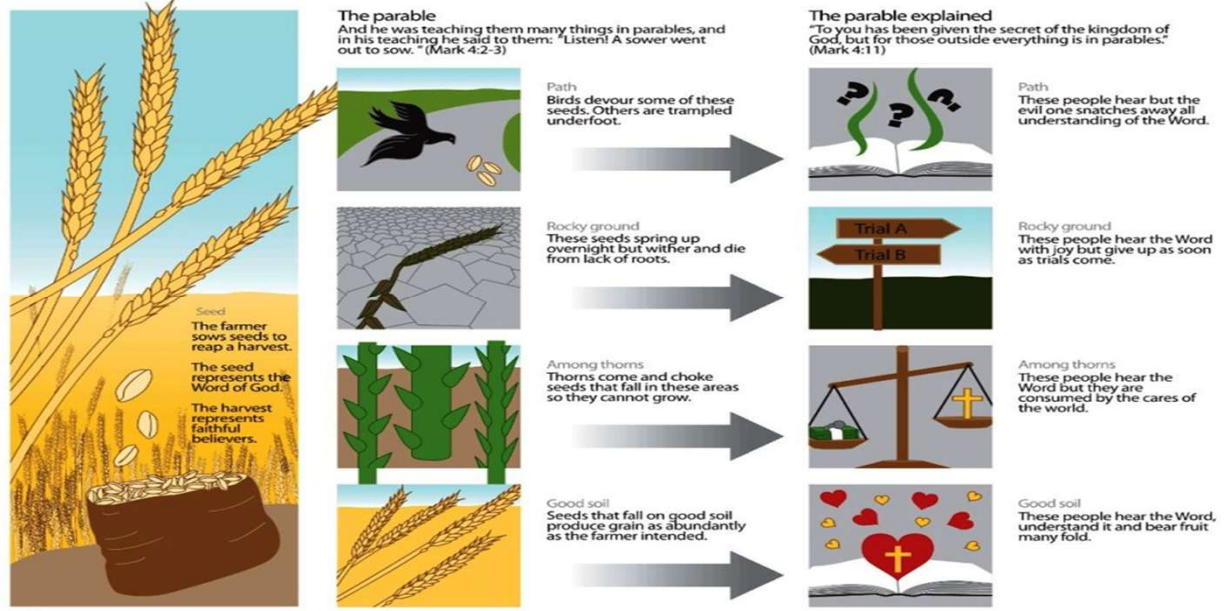
The PARABEL of JESUS

"the Sower, the Seed,
and the Soil"



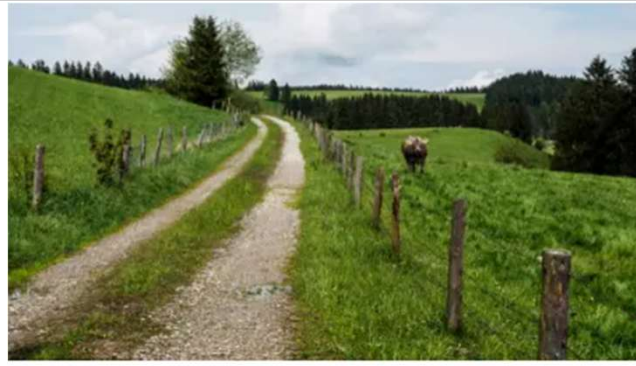
Parable of the Sower

Jesus often spoke in parables while teaching. He used this parable to differentiate between types of people who hear God's Word.



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Parable of the Sower

Depth & Growth Chart



<http://BibleOpia.WordPress.com>

**The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed...
the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.
But once it is sown, it springs up
and becomes the largest of plants.**

- Mark 4:31-32



Mark 4:26-34